A History of
McKILLOP

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McKILLOP

compiled and edited by
Mrs. Joseph Grummett

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McKillop Council - 1967

(rear, left) Councillors Allan Campbell, Harold Dodds, Ralph McNichol, William Dennis; (seated) James McQuaid, assessor, John M. Eckert, clerk-treasurer, Kenneth Stewart, reeve and Wilson Little, road superintendent.

Forward

As Canada celebrates its 100th birthday in 1967 we the Council of McKillop Township decided it was only fitting to commemorate this great event. Early in 1967, 110 years after the Township of McKillop as it now exists was organized for municipal purposes, the McKillop council unanimously endorsed a motion to have a book of the memoirs of the Township published honoring different phases of pioneer life.

We pay tribute to our forefathers who endured many hardships in opening up the Township, clearing land and building some of the finest farms in the Province of Ontario. With their great foresight in building roads, schools and churches our young people have been able to attain higher standards of education, making a great contribution to society throughout all parts of the Continent. Equally great is the contribution of those who have remained on the farm to provide the necessities of life for our urban brothers and sisters.

We owe a debt of gratitude to those who supplied stories, illustrations, information and facts, thus making this book possible in relating the past of McKillop Township. A special thanks is extended to a former ratepayer, one time schoolteacher of No. 13 School Roxboro, Mrs. Lillian Grummett who dedicated much time to the writing of this book.

In closing, may we hope that you as citizens and future citizens find this chapter in the colorful history of McKillop Township, interesting and enjoyable

The Old Home Place

Wherever Life has led our feet,
Whatever we have done,
Whatever in the storm and heat
Our hands have lost or won,
There is an image dear and fine
That has not lost its grace,
The picture of that lovely shrine
Hearts call The Old Home Place.

Around its crumbling walls still run
The paths our childhood made,
Still lighted by the kindly sun
The places where he played.
The heart still loves to slip away
In memory, and trace
The winding road that leads away
Back to The Old Home Place

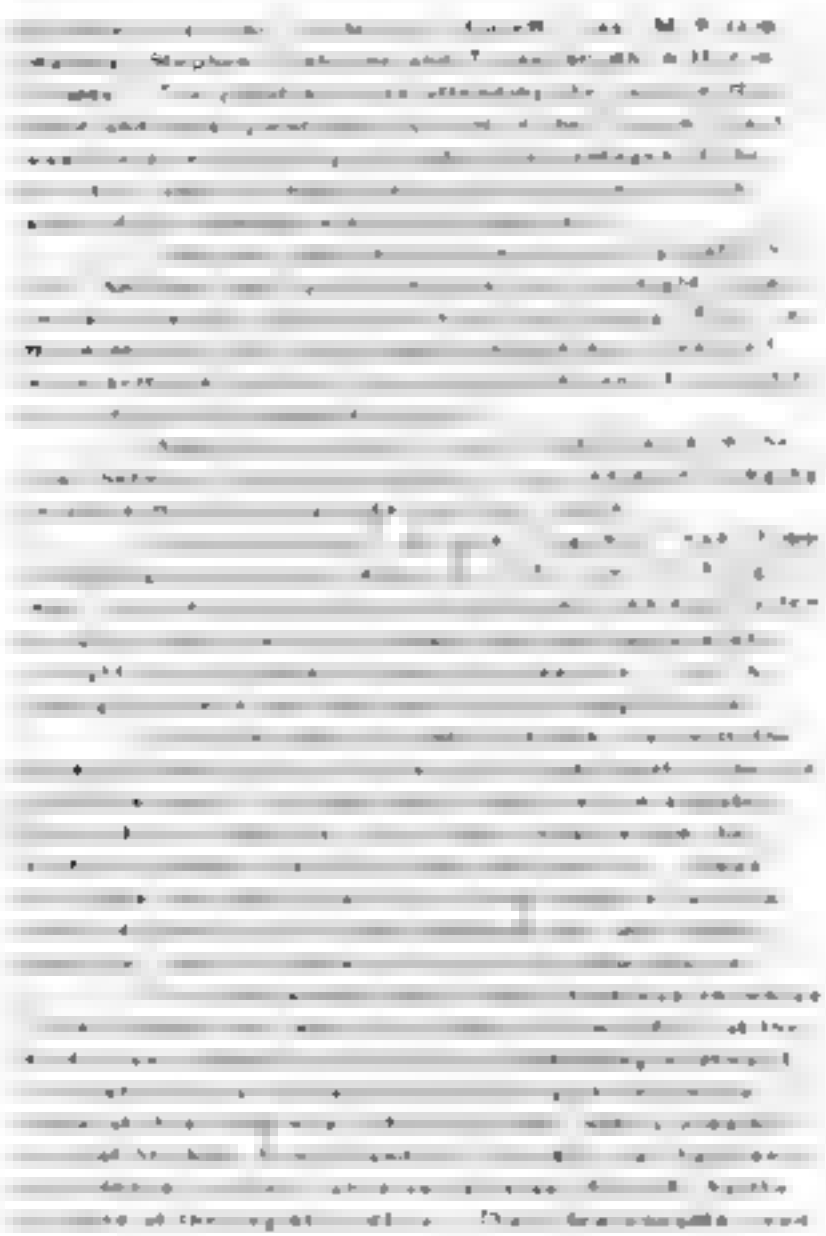
by C. E. Flynn

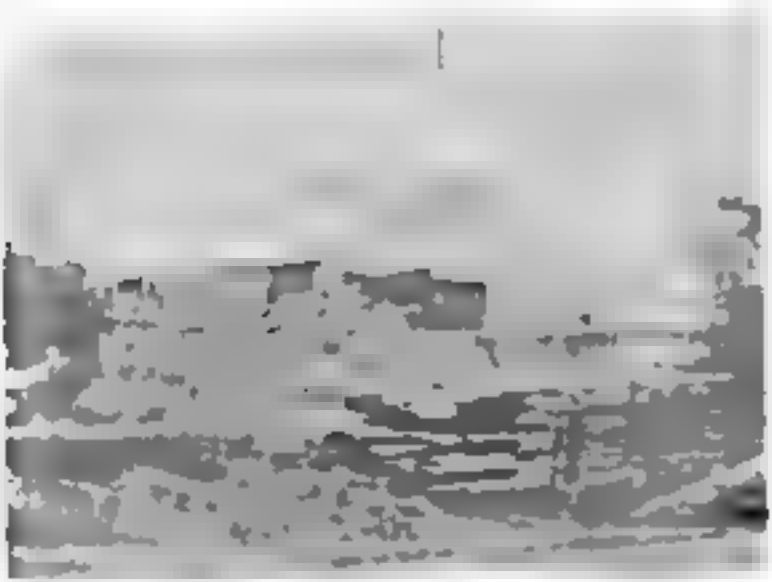
Introduction

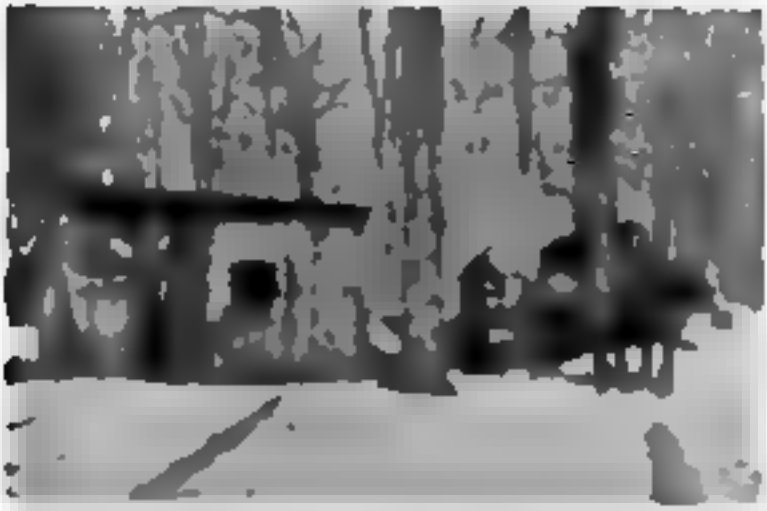
Centennials are everyone's business especially this year [illegible] when our Nation Canada is celebrating this notable event. We are not only reflecting back this year we should remember and honour our forefathers the pioneers who developed our land and our township and the many grants who have come over since and further developed the country to its present state. People should be interested in the history of the land and township of their birth or adoption.

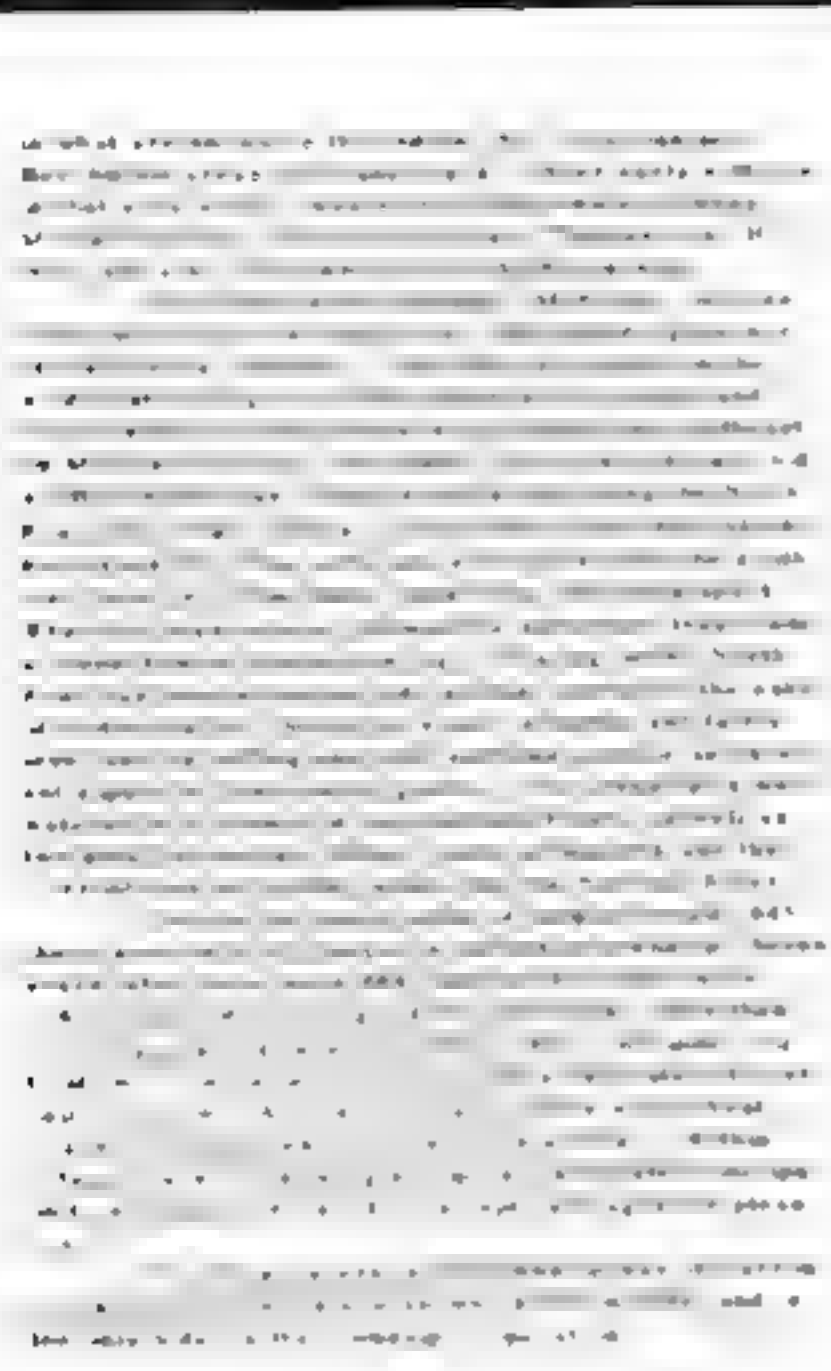
Hurontario and Wellington was pastured by pioneer farmers who were self sufficient in providing their own clothing, food, shelter and education. Too soon do we forget the past. The treasured books are dusty on stuffy attics, libraries or worse still have been destroyed. In many instances descendants knew not of their famous ancestors. It is hoped that the present and succeeding generations will preserve records so that in 2067 that generation will be able to look back on our record of achievements and progress or maybe errors.

Many years ago [illegible] the Hurontario Land Company was the Canada Company a huge monopoly during the appropriate [illegible] Governing body or regulator had sent a church where we now reside Caledon and Chinguacousy and over twenty other years after when the various townships in the old Hurontario District were named. Settlement commenced under the direction of this strong Land monopoly. The townships they became possessed









township gives some insight into the way in which the township was settled.

[illegible]

There were also other experiences [illegible] the farmers [illegible] they often [illegible] with them [illegible] the stumps [illegible] piled up in the way.

It is believed that the very early settlers brought seedlings with them [illegible] and other fruits [illegible] They [illegible] maple syrup and sugar.

[illegible] gathering [illegible] herbs was [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

First Settlers in Roxboro

As early as 1825, 142 years ago, there was agitation in the Mother Land in respect to the settlement of the British possessions in North America. At the same time there was a near famine in parts of the Old Country. A condition also existed there close to serfdom under which land was purchased on a long-term basis at the end of which time the owner was not given a clear deed of title, but rather the land would pass to heirs of the lords or barons.

About the same time in this area (1827) a road had been surveyed through the dense wilderness. The next year (1828), a trail was cut through from Guelph to Goderich.

The wonderful resources of this new country in respect to its lands, forests, mines, fishing and hunting grounds became known to people of different nationalities, creeds and professions. As a result many emigrated to this land of freedom. The year 1820 is generally regarded as that in which John Galt became directly connected with what is now Canada and was asked to examine the natural resources of Upper Canada-now Ontario. Galt discovered that there were vast tracts of land that had been set aside as crown and clergy reserves and it occurred to him that the sale of the crown reserves would provide a fund large enough to

sold it to Mulholland, then a Mr Shantz owned it In 1879 it was leased by Messrs Burnett and Dolphin of Seaforth who used it for grist and chopping and in 1880 it was leased by George Pearce Mitchell A Mr Rock operated it at two different periods and finally moved it to Bornholm Shortly after installing a deisel engine the mill burned down

While at Roxboro the mill served people for fifty miles around, operating day and night, and it was nothing to see fourteen or more team of oxen there at one time for grist

While dredging operations for the foundation of the present bridge were in progress workmen unearthed an old bearing from a mill water wheel It was identified by Joseph Scott as being from the mill built by his father about 1850. It was made of South American iron wood and is now at the County Museum Goderich

Around that time there was at least one hotel in the settlement a blacksmith shop, a cabinet shop a wagon shop a weaver and a general store

That era is but a memory to-day but it is still a beauty spot.

Municipal History

The first organization of Mc Killop for municipal purposes took place in 1842 in connection with the township of Easthope and began now in Perth County.

An extract from the first minute book of the meeting reads: McKillop, Jan. 2nd, 1854. In the course of William [illegible] the inhabitants of the township of McKillop [illegible] and began agreeable to the Act [illegible] a warrant [illegible] Archibald Cameron [illegible] William [illegible] Her Majesty's Justices of the [illegible] This meeting having proceeded called Alex Cameron [illegible] chairman and John Grant having been proposed and seconded as township clerk for the current year and Adolph Meyer having also been proposed and seconded as clerk and the votes having been taken for each [illegible] was found that John Grant was duly elected for the ensuing year. The same minutes show that the above meeting elected Matthew Ward and Dugan Assessor, Dennis Downey tax collector and James Grieve, John Lindsay and Alex Cameron township wardens [illegible].

Among those whose names we see in connection with various offices for that year were: John Carroll, John Burger, Henry O'Neil, James Cluff, Wm. Habkirk, Robert Scott, S. Meyer, John Kenna, William Cluff, M. Cann, Joseph Jenkins, Patrick Carlon, Hugh McCann, Robert and Edward Downie, John Lapaire, Peter McCann,

[illegible]

[illegible] wheels as narrow tires were hard on the road.

Wooden bridges and culverts were rapidly being replaced by [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

In [illegible] The Municipality of Seaforth was

granted the right to sell hydro electric power to M Killop and were given the right to erect poles for the necessary wire [illegible] timber [illegible] and [illegible] at [illegible] their own expense.

[illegible] engineer's report [illegible]

[illegible]

$[illegible] [illegible] be [illegible] $[illegible] [illegible] $[illegible] [illegible] $[illegible] drainage $[illegible] grants $[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] was $42,500. Total [illegible] was $[illegible] [illegible] $[illegible] [illegible] $[illegible] [illegible] was $[illegible]

[illegible] the township [illegible] warden.

[illegible] death [illegible] who had [illegible] warden.

[illegible] county [illegible] grants [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] Road was designated as county [illegible] of the town of [illegible] of the village of [illegible] of [illegible] county roads [illegible]

[illegible] had [illegible] township.

A by-law was passed [illegible] department of Highways [illegible] grant for [illegible]

[illegible] April [illegible] Tender [illegible] accepted for M Killop swamp drain for $[illegible] [illegible] branches [illegible]

[illegible] Harry Hoggart [illegible] Seaforth, was given contract to build swamp drain bridge $5?5 and Smith bridge $544. Township sold debentures to a Toronto firm for $[illegible] for Swamp drain [illegible] years at 5 1/2 per cent, the largest [illegible] to date.

Treasurer [illegible] retired, had been [illegible] for [illegible] years. Was [illegible] by [illegible].

In 19[illegible] $[illegible] was spent on roads and bridges [illegible] Highways Municipal Act [illegible] Council went on record as opposing [illegible] department of highways keeping No. [illegible] open during the winter season [illegible] for benefit received [illegible] to those who [illegible] a snow road.

[illegible] whose serving his ninth year as clerk.

In [illegible] Thomas [illegible] the county's first warden [illegible] from [illegible] to [illegible].

[illegible] method of selection of Warden changed [illegible] open council.

In the [illegible] the [illegible] here roads were becoming more important [illegible] Accordingly [illegible] the [illegible] vehicle owners [illegible] gasoline [illegible] and county roads were [illegible] on highways.

In [illegible] No. 2 was paved [illegible].

[illegible] became the township's [illegible] warden.

There were [illegible] between [illegible] and 1949 [illegible] grants [illegible] elementary and secondary education were [illegible].

A four wheel [illegible] maintenance grader with snow plow and blade tendered for [illegible].

In May 1946 Council asked that McKillop be

[illegible]

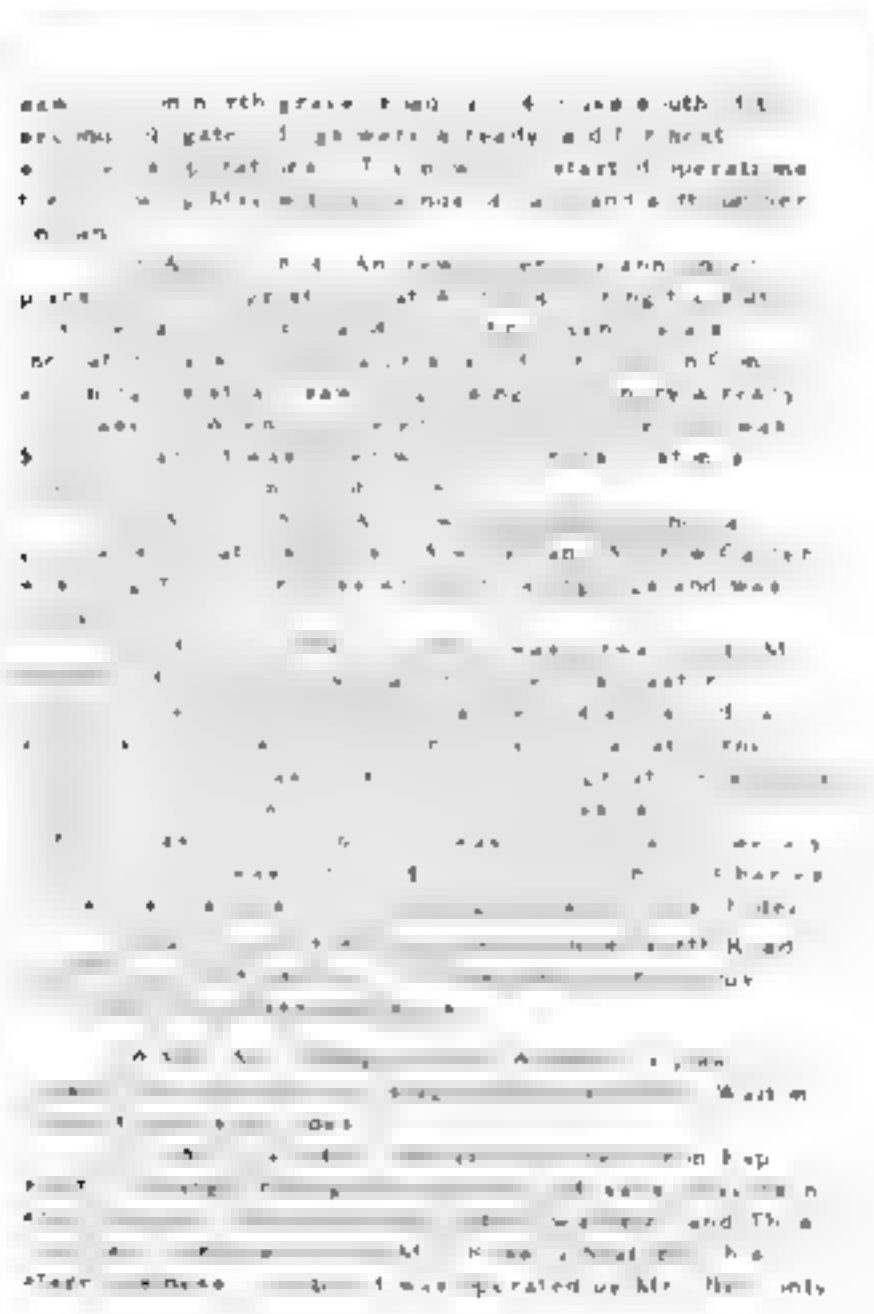
Building the Roads

Some of the early road building across Huron County was done by a method known as a "corduroy" road. It was made of logs or "cordelry timbers" cut at right angles with tree stumps left as supports cut at such heights as to maintain a fairly good level. These were covered with dirt or gravel. What is now North Road No. 8 highway and others were later built over the years the logs were found to rot and many of these roads got into bad condition.

The first road in the area was the Huron Road which followed the present No. 8 highway. The next important road in the area was the Goderich to Stratford Road (now No. 4 highway) from Brussels and two branches were constructed, one from Hayfield and Lake Road on the other through Egmondville (now County Road 1) up through Seaforth and north to Hensall, Winchester and Varna. John Miller, Morris Township was an influential man in the building of the North Range Road from Seaforth to Varna. This road is now known as County Road 2 north and runs through Mitchell from south to north. An early map located in Egmondville was one of the reasons this road was built.

Toll gates every few miles were used as a means of raising money to help pay costs of road up keep. The tax fee and toll gates were known as "corvees". Later Huron County bought out the interest of the toll gate

[illegible]



Churches and Cemeteries

F[illegible]owing the creation of homes many being log houses and there nothing more than cam to a the heads of families were concerned about their ch[illegible] reb a school was needs and places of worship for all

an B[illegible] education didn't appear to be a chief pr[illegible]ess The poems and stories in the readers were dreary sad and grim and what fun would it have had appeal In that year education was in the process of being transf[illegible]rmed in its happiest moments by many to tax supported organized public school system Many resented the tax system A man [illegible] ng r[illegible]an s[illegible]ent get his money f[illegible]r his[illegible] other men's children

an ab[illegible]e the new School A t[illegible]q[illegible]ty parent or guardian t send a [illegible]ren between the ages of se en and tw[illegible]e t[illegible] school at least [illegible] the in the year It was said that parents were [illegible]hunting for teachers that an [illegible]ated man was worth [illegible]s as a farmer or mechan[illegible]n t[illegible]ent or pr[illegible]ess m[illegible] than an uned[illegible]ated man

The early beaf[illegible]rth Register and Hurm Advertiser reported that in 87 [illegible]my there were health rolls numbering [illegible]4 and [illegible] were w[illegible]th anything [illegible]dly pupils was thought to be a good average [illegible]r one teacher to instruct and [illegible]ntrol and it [illegible] that number of pupils $4[illegible]0 would be a suitable average salary

Teacher [illegible]ening had begun though standards and training were at a shaky minimum School ter[illegible]

[illegible]

A group who met for a few years (1854-59) in the James Spearing home built a church in 1859 on [illegible] and owned now by Frank Coleman (between his residence and those of [illegible] and [illegible]) just at the present cemetery [illegible] ned with the Caledon Circuit. It became an independent charge in 1876 and a Methodist church was built that was now Methodist noted.

The first Methodist cemetery was opened on [illegible] on the same plot as the church and was known as Methodist and Cemetery. After the new one opened most of the bodies were [illegible] and interred there. Later the few remaining markers were removed and the plot was plowed over.

It is not exactly known how many little churches served the spiritual needs of the early settlers and now the churches that have served well for decades are being [illegible] sold and re-used for various purposes.

In passing were noted that there was a Canada Methodist church known as Forty One and one quarter mile east. Another place early as Oct [illegible] 1876. The ministers were Rev. Charles [illegible] M.A. and a Rev. Keough.

There is also a note referring to a tea meeting [illegible] the Methodist Episcopal church [illegible] on Nov. 9th was a [illegible] William [illegible] was the main speakers [illegible] Messrs. Allan Angus and Dennis also Rev. [illegible]. The people first held [illegible] and [illegible] Brussels [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. It was in March 1877.

[illegible] Presbyterian [illegible] services were held at [illegible] No.

A note dated Jan. 24, 1877 indicated that there was a proposal to build a Wesleyan Methodist Church, one and one-half miles south of Walton on North Gravel Road at [illegible]. The congregation at that time was united with Brussels.

[illegible]

farm one and one half miles east of Seattle. A log cabin then had been the shanty and a fingerboard on the [illegible] the way to [illegible] Mrs. Madigan [illegible] twenty years a widow [illegible] husband died. She [illegible] by [illegible] Mr. Madigan [illegible] Mr. Peter Evans who [illegible] twenty-two years. In crossing [illegible] attempt her [illegible] the [illegible] was every [illegible] nearly two [illegible] heard [illegible] when she [illegible] and gradually [illegible] her death. She [illegible] and has [illegible] resting [illegible] by her [illegible] under [illegible] and [illegible] and prayed [illegible] her [illegible] taken [illegible] the home of Mrs. Madigan [illegible] Monday morning at [illegible] Mass being [illegible] Mrs. [illegible] Mrs. John Evans [illegible] and one [illegible] The remains were taken to Seattle and [illegible] Mrs. Madigan and several nieces and [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Methodist Church was [illegible] and donated by the late Harmet [illegible] and his first wife Ann. They and [illegible] owned by Harold Hatch. The church was built [illegible] of the farm and had a cemetery [illegible] with it. Several of the old tomb stones mark

the place

The first trustees were Robert Armstrong George Lowe, James Mcammings Barnet Bolton Hyman Tyerman Wm Carr and Isaac Coverdale The document was signed and sealed by John Haigh and James Soarling.

The new Providence Church was built on lot 20 con 9 on the southwest corner of the farm now owned by Oliver Pryde Some of the families who attended were Hannas Trewarthas Lawrences Hartas Campbells Morrisons Pryors Boltons and Torneys

Providence Church continued until 1899 then it was sold by public auction.

SMITH CHURCH BAPTIST

The Church was built by Samuel Smith on his own farm lot 5 con 7 now the Lorne Bolton farm Mr Smith was a lay preacher of the Baptist faith. It was built about 90 years ago with neighbors assisting

When Mr Smith moved to Scarborough a Orange Loyal Orange Lodge No 883 Winthrop was moved to lot 25 con 8 the Jim Henry Campbell farm now owned by Robert Argyle When the lodge disbanded in July 1920 it was bought by Samuel Smith Son James S and moved to lot 17 con 4 beside the family It has since been used as an implement shed since by Gilbert Smith

DUFFS CHURCH Markham

Church services were first held in S S 4 The first baptism was Janet Reid Kerr Nov 5 1865 the daughter of Alex Kerr and his wife Jean Lapsley The first session meeting was in the school Jan 30 1875 with Mr and Mrs Peter McNaughton Finlay Reid Mrs Barron William Walker Mrs John Cowan Mr and Mrs Robert Scott Rev Wm Graham and Messrs Walker and McCullough present

[illegible] the same year the Women's Association was [illegible]

After weeks of remodelling and special church services were held on Nov. [illegible]. The church was dedicated by [illegible] Bishop Richmond [illegible] Rev. Strasser, Pastor Zion's Church, Milwaukee. Greetings were brought and [illegible] the church was [illegible]. Supper was served [illegible] in the evening [illegible] Greetings were given by the pastors and [illegible] the congregation. Mrs. Rose Kuehl of Milwaukee was guest soloist in the [illegible] evening. The evening was closed and [illegible] the congregation [illegible] and [illegible] Rev. [illegible] Thomas [illegible] Rev. M. Meyer, Schwandt, Rev. [illegible] Meyer, [illegible] Rev. [illegible] Schwandt [illegible] years. [illegible] Meyer [illegible] Anniversary Week [illegible] and [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible] 1875 a petition for the organization of this congregation was presented to the [illegible] by a number of [illegible] and a Service [illegible] and [illegible] by the [illegible] of Wisconsin. The request was granted on August [illegible] and Rev. [illegible] organized the congregation [illegible] Rev. Ruhe. Mr. [illegible] was instructed [illegible] congregation [illegible] were [illegible] Andrew [illegible] and [illegible] the first [illegible] church was opened [illegible] 1875. Rev. [illegible] and the other [illegible] Professor Craven of Kenosha [illegible] after which the church

was married conducted the dedication service

The present church building was erected during Rev [illegible] pastorate next rate [illegible] the other at the opening [illegible] with [illegible] The building committee was [illegible] Hugh Alexander [illegible] Archibald Summerville [illegible] Margaret [illegible] secretary and [illegible] treasurer The cost of building was $[illegible] The congregation [illegible] grave [illegible] and [illegible] aim at $[illegible]

The following having been [illegible] pastors since [illegible] Rev [illegible] Thompson [illegible] Wingrave [illegible] years) [illegible] years [illegible] Hugh Smith W [illegible] Smith [illegible] W A [illegible] W [illegible] Patton [illegible] R [illegible] and [illegible] A M Millan supply [illegible] congregation James R [illegible] H [illegible] Summerville and [illegible]

Members of the first session were Messrs James Hyndman [illegible] and Robert Alexander who [illegible] years [illegible] were [illegible] Hyndman [illegible] and [illegible] Andrew [illegible] was the first Sunday School superintendent serving [illegible] years followed by Thomas [illegible] who served for 45 years [illegible] Biddle was superintendent succeeded by [illegible] Ernest Todd was [illegible] the present superintendent [illegible]

In Sept [illegible] Women's Association was formed with Mrs Wingrave as president [illegible] the organizers were Mrs [illegible] Mrs [illegible] and Mrs [illegible] Mc[illegible] Fifteen years later this organization joined with the W M S with Mrs Robert Archibald president

In [illegible] the congregation joined with the United Church of Canada Miss Esther Anderson was [illegible] leader and organist for many years until her death in

in the church s basement

The first Young People s Organization was formed in 905 as a Guild with Robert Beattie president When re organized as a Young People s Society in 916 Hiram Blanchard was president, Bethe and Duff s joined with them in 1954 with Jon Axtman president

The first M sic on Band was organized in 193 led by Mrs W l am Dodds

The hurch was first heated by two box stoves until the early 10 s when lamps were used for light ing until hydro was installed. The basement was div d ed into classrooms in 1955 Water from an overflowing well 45 feet deep, dr lled in 1950 was piped from the manse to the hurch in 950 A modern washroom for the min ster was furn shed and the kitchen was mode rn ized Several memorials were placed in the church ver the years including a plaque a Bapt smal F nt and collect on p ates

BETHEL CHURCH

Originally a Methodist Church Bethel Church was built on con 12 in 1878. and services were he d continuous y until July 1942 F r a number of years it was connected with the Walton and Providence charges After Church on on Walton and Providence churches were closed and Bethel joined with the Duff s and W n throp c rcuit

Before the chur h was bu lt Sunday School was held in S S 4 with a Mr Thompson as the first super intendent Murray Dennis held that office when the church closed

Mrs William Davidson was the first president of the Ladies Aid and Mrs David Boyd was hostess for the first meeting The last president was Mrs John Burch The first organist was Miss Mary P llard and Miss Jean Hillen, the last

The ministers at Bethel from 1878 were Revs Davey Stafford, Baugh Falls Geo Sabine Torrance Tiffin, Carscallen Dever Andrews Baker (1905), Currie Tyler Lockland (1910) Edmonds Craik. Young Bentley (19, Britton Dr Brown Robinson, Brown Ferguson, Smith Morrow Craw Patton. Peters Livingstone Holden Summerell and J C Britton

In 1902 twelve families joined with Walton The church was sold moved into Walton where it is used as a hairdressing establishment Thamer's Beauty Salon.

The money that remained in the C C W treasury at this time was donated to the building fund of the new Seaforth hospital to aid in furnishing a room

MAITLANDBANK CEMETERY

In Feb 1874 serious consideration was being given toward establishing a cemetery to serve Seaforth and area Harpurhey lots were said to be taken up and Egmondville had only seven vacant lots As the case was urgent it was suggested that a stock company be formed unless the corporation of Seaforth would consider the idea

In Dec 1874 a company composed of gentlemen of Seaforth purchased ten acres of land from Thomas E Hays on con 3 M Kinloch for a new cemetery The land was situated almost opposite the old Maitland burying ground con 2

An item appearing Dec 1874 in the Seaforth Expositor said The ten acre purchase of land from T E Hays for a burial ground is admirably adapted for the purpose for which it has been purchased The proprietors intend fitting the ground in first class style and intend laying it out in a manner which will be attractive and convenient By this movement a want will be supplied which Seaforth has long and urgently felt and the town is certainly indebted to the enterprising gentlemen

In 1922 the committee in charge was - S T Holmes chairman Fred S. Savage secretary-treasurer Dr F J Burrows Wm Hartry Wm Morrison and I F Reid Others who have been connected with its operation are A L Porteous Herald Lawrence J A Westcott. Ross Mordie, Wm G Campbell and others Mrs E H Close has been secretary treasurer since 1961 By raising the rates the cemetery has been self sustaining

The first burial in Section D. to the east of the main driveway, was made in 1926 and in Section E, new section at west end, was made in 953

ST. JAMES CEMETERY, SEAFORTH

On August 12, 1899 St. James Roman Catholic Church, Seaforth, purchased two and one-quarter acres of land for $600. from Edward Dovereaux for a cemetery It is on the southwest corner of the farm on the north McKillop side of No. 8 Highway just east of the town limits.

The first burial from St. James parish was that of John Duncan 43, of Seaforth on Nov 8, 1899, by Fr Joseph Kennedy. Before that all burials took place in Irishtown (St. Columban) cemetery, the first from St. James Church being Mary Jean Burns, 17, on August 14, 1880 by Fr. P J Shea.

A new entrance was built when No. 8 Highway was rebuilt and resurfaced in 1955.

Education in McKillop

S. S. NO. 1 McKILLOP 1907 19 5

As I sit here alone
This Centennial Year
With a pen in my hand
And a glass full of beer
My thoughts go back to
No. 1
Where my school days
finished
And also begun.
The school it still stands
And looks just the same,
To have it demolished
Would be really a shame
Three years ago
It had to be sold
And sold to the bidder
Who had the most gold.
Louis J Nolan who
hasn't yet wed.
Decided 'twould make
A good implement shed.
So he bought the whole
parcel,
Land, woodshed and all
And it fits to his farm
Like a barn to the wall
The first years of my
schooling
The gang was not large
The three Purcell girls,
Mary Esther and Marg
Also the Murphy s.
Agnes Vincent, Jimmy
and Jack.
The last named, was
noted
To always talk back.
This he could do
And think he was right
But always got licked
When it came to a fight.
There were also the
Dettrichs
Who went for awhile
But they moved away
To some other isle
There were Mary Nigh
(Walsh)

Dennis, Jack, Dick and
Bill
The Lane's could see
coming
As they came over the hill.
Tom Downey and Hughes
Who lived near the school
It was Tom who helped us
Break every rule
There were also the
Flannerys,
Joe, Wes and Eileen
And Florence who helped
To keep the school clean.
There was a large box
stove
That sat on the floor
And a long string of pipes
You see now no more
A shed full of wood
And a pump near the school
The places we went
When too hot or too cool
On cold stormy days
I can tell you Brother
You would freeze on one
side
And toast on the other
The teacher had troubles
As most teachers do,
To keep us all learning
And keep order too.
I remember Miss Dever-
eaux.
Who Mrs. Dorsey became
Without much of an effort
Could put us to shame.
Mary Jordan (Dewan)
Took over from there
And some of the time
We got on her hair
Miss Agnes Stapleton.
Who became Mrs Kale
Threatened to put
The whole gang in jail
Leaving all jokes aside
We weren't really that bad.
Perhaps just the same
As the ordinary lad
There's one thing I am
Quite happy to say
Excepting about five
They're all living to-day
I hope someone else
Will take it from here
And I'm go back
And finish my beer

VEE, EEL

L. S. S. No. 1

This school, situated in McKillop on the north side of No. 8 highway about two miles east of Seaforth was known as Un on S. S. No. 1 McKillop, Hibbert and Tuckersmith. Pupils from McKillop Tuckersmith and north-west corner of Hibbert went to school there. It is believed to have been built on land acquired from Bernard

Burns in 1859 or earlier perhaps even as early as 1847 as deeds often were late in being registered - even never registered. The section was organized by Andrew McKernan a very early settler and a McKernan was among the first teachers. The first school was log built on the south-east corner of lot 18 con 1 west of the swamp William Lee's farm.

In 1872 a site was bought off the south west corner of the same lot from William Lee and a frame school was built. This was later replaced by a larger frame building and painted dark red. This school was sold by auction in 1965 to Lou Nolan for $500. He is using it for an implement shed.

The first record of a teacher was in 1868 and was Margaret Gill. Frances Gavlin was the teacher when the school was closed in 1940.

R. C. S. S. NO. 1 BEECHWOOD SCHOOL

In 1883 a Separate School was built one and one-quarter miles east of Beechwood. It was a frame school and was later bricked. It was known as S. S. No. 1, McKillop. A well was dug and trees planted also at this time.

The pupils attending this school had previously attended public school No. 5 McKillop, located on the west corner of lot 10, con. 6 better known as Moylan's corner.

The first trustees of the Separate School No. 1, were John Malone, John Horan and Jake Bruner. The first teacher, Miss Mary Casey received a salary of between $250 and $300 a year.

In 1923 a new red brick school was built and the earlier building was sold. The brick was removed from it and it is being used as a shed on the property of Ken Ryan lot 7 con. 5.

The first trustees of the new brick school were

A [illegible] O Reilly Albert Kraszewski and Edward H [illegible]
The enrollment was 60 The school built in
425 served a community until at which time the
pupils transferred to the new parochial school at W
Columbian known as R C [illegible] Agnes
Mrs Michael B Murray was the teacher when the school
closed and now is a teacher at the new school

R C [illegible] ARIA [illegible] MOUNT

The first school in Mount Carmel was built in 858
on the north side of what is now Shamokin Highway in Mt Carmel
Township [illegible] was [illegible] by 52 feet
It was later covered with clapboard and had a small
frame porch entrance It was still in use in the early
880 s but was moved [illegible] east to the west [illegible] corner to
a white one [illegible] house [illegible] One room was
used until one [illegible] After that it was used
for various purposes including a [illegible] until
Mark Mowrey was [illegible] when he moved into
church

A new [illegible] was built in
across the road [illegible] It was [illegible] and
store and was known as [illegible] Mowrey and
Albert [illegible] at last description

The St Edward parochial school was [illegible] private
school until the end of when it was given over as a
separate [illegible] Anna Ward a teacher
who [illegible] Patapsco may have been an early
teacher

The first trustees [illegible] years ago were
Stephen Downey [illegible] and [illegible]
Dennis Downey was the [illegible] treasurer

The trustees of the second school in Albert
were James [illegible] Patrick [illegible] McGrath and Frank
McQuaid

In [illegible] Rev John Murphy was appointed secretary-treasurer a position he held until his death in 1899

Frank M[illegible]d was named his successor.

The first teacher was [illegible]ames [illegible]e Cantelon followed by [illegible]atrick [illegible]e Cantelon. Other teachers were [illegible] South Mas[illegible] arr[illegible]ngton [illegible]Somers [illegible]Whitten Mc[illegible]ers Sullivan [illegible]ames McKeown Th[illegible]as Melady [illegible] J. Evans [illegible]at[illegible]o Mas[illegible]h Miss [illegible]bury Miss [illegible]rtle Miss [illegible]ran Miss [illegible] Margaret Devereaux Th[illegible]as M[illegible] Margaret Mary Stella [illegible]e [illegible]zabeth [illegible] [illegible] Anne Doyle Agnes Benn [illegible]Catherine [illegible]ahey [illegible]ra [illegible]etson Marie [illegible]Sullivan Sadie [illegible]reenan and [illegible]ep[illegible] Moylan.

The[illegible] were [illegible]ch of[illegible] the Mc[illegible]p side road [illegible] St. C[illegible]ir [illegible]ch. was demolished to make room for the new [illegible]ve [illegible]m school opened [illegible]his year [illegible]d and [illegible]cupied [illegible]r the [illegible]rst t[illegible]e on Apr[illegible]. There are [illegible]r classrooms, a general purpose room, a supply room and a pr[illegible]ncipal's room [illegible]at a cost of $[illegible] complete. Built to accommodate [illegible]pupils [illegible] S[illegible] [illegible]d [illegible]bert [illegible]eechwood and [illegible]s present [illegible]ncipal [illegible]ed [illegible]k school at St. C[illegible]lumban.

[illegible]van Russell [illegible]e [illegible]Lucan were the c[illegible]ntractors and [illegible]rton and Ba[illegible]E[illegible] [illegible]tzgener [illegible]r[illegible] [illegible]itects.

Present te[illegible]ers are: Mrs. M. [illegible] Murray, princ[illegible]pal; Mrs. Marie Melady; Mrs. [illegible]len McLaughlin and Mother Mary Tustin; and trustees are: Clarence Maloney (Chairman), R[illegible]y Swart, Thomas Murray, Martin M[illegible]rray and [illegible]hn O'Leary with Auguste [illegible]Archarme as secretary-treasurer.

S. S. NO. 2 McKITTRICK

The first school serving the R[illegible]sboro area was of log c[illegible]nstruction, erected in [illegible]ot 28, con. 3, about the 1850's on the site where the Ma[illegible]tlandbank Cemetery now is [the Thomas E. Hayes farm] and stood [illegible]t back of where the Greenwood vault is now.

Acc[illegible]rding to the rec[illegible]rds [illegible]vailable, the first teacher was Robert Chisholm, who was considered

[illegible]

[illegible] about $180. three district residents supporting [illegible] the Commerce to be part of a later. This school [illegible] $2 bus [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[

C.R.C.S.S. (2 St Columban

U.S.S. No 1 *Notan's*

R C S.S No 1 *Beechwood*

S.S No 4 *Duff's*

S.S No. 6 *Wheatley's*

Jessie Little Elizabeth Scott, Mrs Clarissa (Dale) Stewart Mrs Blackwell Mrs Weber Mrs Hanna Mrs Powell and Miss A Angel

Mrs R Doig is the present teacher

An oil furnace pressure system and new desks were added in 1965. In that year pupils from S S. 13 Roxboro) were transferred to S S 4 and were transported by bus

S. S. NO 5 McKILLOP

The school house of Section No 5 was located on Lot 0 concession one and to the best of our knowledge was established in the late 1850 s

The first building was of log construction and was replaced about 1890 with a white brick building

Pupils attended No 5 from the boundary of McKillop and Logan in the sixth and seventh concession one mile east west in the same concessions about the same distance the fourth and fifth on the south and eighth and ninth concessions on the north

We are told that the attendance would be around fifty in the Spring and Fall and would be at twenty five hundred in the Winter months when boys well up in their teens who were needed to work on the farm in Summer would return to school

After the turn of the century the attendance declined and in 1 5 the school was closed The Section was absorbed by S S No 4 and S S S No 1 McKillop

According to public school inspector J H Kinhead. Patrick Moylan originally granted a quarter acre of land to the trustees and sixteen years later on Nov 1878 granted an additional quarter acre When the school was closed the trustees allowed the property to revert to Thomas J Moylan. the owner of Lot 5 It had been rented for one dollar a year as long as it was used for school purposes

We were unable t learn the nam es of the early teachers but can recall hearing of a Mr Shalen and of Mr Charles M Cabe and h s br ther ar ound 1 Other teachers were B b Evans Jam s McFarl n Ella Cowan Anna Doherty Mary Lamb Ellen Evans James A Dorsey Margaret Sweeney Pearl Anderson A n Brien and the last teacher was Frances Smith

S. S. NO.

It is believed the se tion organized in bo 1850 s One of the early teachers was John Shannon on S H had come t M ntrose in 184 and to get n he t wnship from May 1854 until his death n Jan 1862 his son W l ar ja es Shannon tau ght s ch S l took over from him as teacher

Sch ol trustees at Mr were Barnet W l on Robert Armstrong and Robert Scarlett and the teacher s salary at that t me was p unds

The first s hool house was in the northeast c rner of lot on B Campbell Farm the well and large m trees still indicate the location Th s school was then moved to the northeast corner of t lot on B ts present site on a rental basis

Int 1 t wnship p rliament ne were to share paying the school share $4 rental The rent then and paid for the same was $1 per year and the caretaker was paid $

Decision re garding a new s hool were held Jan th Mount C Contract was awarded J Cutteridge of Seaforth for $ B Payments by an expenses are quoted to $ an tate Features and make up at $ extras $ 44 a total of $ 401 04 James Johnston bought the old school for $58 and Miss Mar l vens of Seaforth was first teacher in the new school

A note in the back of the minute book states that in 1899 a Great Snow Storm occurred on Sept 24 with

4 inches of snow on London, four in Stratford and three on Mt. Elgin and the temperature at Barrie was 0 degrees below zero.

[illegible]

[illegible] who [illegible] completing his 16th year.

Several [illegible] instructors were engaged from the [illegible]

Teacher's [illegible] salary was $[illegible] compared to $[illegible] in [illegible]. The first entrance requirement was a more [illegible] than [illegible] today and paid $[illegible]. There was [illegible] during the [illegible] but it was [illegible] two years extra pupils have been [illegible] the [illegible]

A [illegible] and [illegible] certificate but the [illegible] at present are [illegible] future although as an [illegible] the [illegible] entity. The present [illegible] the school area [illegible] Arthur [illegible] Mrs. [illegible] and George [illegible] as secretary-treasurer.

[illegible] MASSEY

[illegible] the southeast corner of [illegible] 10 was granted [illegible] company [illegible] which to build a school. A log school was constructed and the [illegible] was known as [illegible] Trustees were Mr. Newman and [illegible]. Teachers with [illegible] were [illegible] and [illegible] but [illegible] and Miss Morgan [illegible] years in the [illegible] and an [illegible] the 3rd school was [illegible] Mr. [illegible]

[illegible] a square acre of land was purchased at the north-east corner [illegible] and a one room school built on its centre. A well was dug the same year. When the school opened [illegible] Miss Morgan was the first teacher for one year and two months.

The present trustees are Frank Murray secretary treasurer Asahel Bigelow chairman and Norman Bowers and

[illegible] grew up [illegible] and three have retired to [illegible] They are Miss Myra Murray Mrs Ruth Miss [illegible] Miss Ruth Mrs the present teacher Miss [illegible]

When a [illegible] was [illegible] of the three oldest graduates were in attendance They were [illegible] Page Mrs Page [illegible] and Asahel [illegible] Mitchell [illegible] Another [illegible] was unable to attend [illegible] Mrs [illegible] Whitman Bissell [illegible] Mrs [illegible] Matthews and Mrs August [illegible] The [illegible] was a year with [illegible] Murray

Some [illegible] have been noted for their [illegible] and pupils speaking abilities over the years guided [illegible] capable [illegible] as teachers and [illegible]

[illegible] SCHOOL

In [illegible] was built [illegible] It was a big [illegible] feet with a basement and one story [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and from the [illegible] The [illegible] boasted a big wood and [illegible]

The first [illegible] was [illegible] a hair man with a [illegible] and [illegible] as the other trustees [illegible] Murray was [illegible] treasurer

The first [illegible] was kept [illegible] a salary of $240 [illegible] was [illegible] by [illegible] with a $40 increase Three years later [illegible] was teacher followed by [illegible] Edward Evans and Stanley Anderson

In 1882 a new frame school was built in spite of opposition at a cost of $ 20 A board fence was re-

placed by a water one. A drilled well was equipped with a windmill pump.

Other teachers were W. J. a. McKay, James Hogarth McFadden, who died shortly after completing [illegible] a number of years there were over [illegible] pupils from a Wood [illegible] three graduates who taught at No. 4 were Miss [illegible] Stevens of Moosomin and James Rae.

The [illegible] school was rebuilt in 1912, bricked and a basement underneath equipped with [illegible] heat and lighting plant. The next teacher then was Miss Edna [illegible] Reid. The school was remodelled in 1954 with [illegible] panelling and ceiling tiled. [illegible] and furnace and pressure system were installed.

Mrs. [illegible] Smith has been teacher since 1957. The school and grounds have been a social centre for the section.

A letter written in [illegible] about 5 [illegible] by Old Timer

The schoolhouse spot we never forget though there we are forgot.

The school was set a half a mile west on the south side of [illegible] and three miles east of the old north gravel road (now a paved highway County Road 2). The lot was almost square being 5 feet from east to west it was originally a part of the [illegible] The first occupant was a pioneer who settled in [illegible] in 1885 and who owned a 320 acre farm extending right to the [illegible] The school was [illegible] as part of the Upper Pipestone School System. The first school was log 1 story 4 room with a gable roof with three [illegible] mile east would we go to school. It was built close to the road facing east with a porch over the entrance. An attractive board fence enclosed the grounds with a gate on the side next the road.

The new school was a well planned frame building, not lacking in architectural beauty with large

S.S No. 7 *Leadbury*

S.S No. 8 *Manley*

S.S. No. 9 *Dennis*

S.S No. 10 *Wansbrough*

S.S. No. 12 *Grieves*

S.S. No. 13 *Roxboro*

[illegible] along with his brother Bob building a miniature sawmill on the little stream that crossed the road and through the [illegible] by the [illegible]. The [illegible] had a paddle wheel, a power unit and a saw that was [illegible]. A spring freshet washed the [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] was granted by Robert [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] past master [illegible].

[illegible] the [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] Robert Heather's bush. The [illegible] [illegible].

[illegible] there was [illegible] [illegible] Robert Heather. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] was [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] by [illegible] [illegible] Heather.

[illegible] taught privately. The [illegible] The [illegible] frame [illegible] was built on the sand mound [illegible]. It was divided into two rooms with two teachers. Later an [illegible] room was built to the south end of the [illegible] making [illegible] one [illegible] rooms with a hallway between.

S. S. NO. 12

In 1884 farmers living on Con. 1, considered building a school. A meeting was called on May 1 by Francis M[illegible]. The William M[illegible]ugh and John G[illegible]rieve were appointed interim trustees until an annual meeting was held Dec. 2, 1884, called by inspector D. M[illegible]ugh of Thamesford.

The section was small as it was formerly included in sections 7 and [illegible].

Three sites were selected but an agreement could not be reached. Arbitrators were hired for $4.00 with Robert Smith representing the ratepayers and Samuel [illegible] the trustees. The site agreed on was lot 27 [illegible].

The school which was built in 1885 was for $800 each building $650, furniture and equipment $275. The trustees borrowed $400 to start construction. Taxes, fees and county grants and proceeds from an endowment paid the balance.

From 1885 to 1945 the school was heated by a wood burning heater and furnace with about 9 cords of 22 inch wood and a total of 14 inch wood used annually. The first well was [illegible] at a cost of $4.50 for digging by hand and a pump installed. This well never proved entirely satisfactory and 4 years later in 1889 a well was drilled.

During 1945 the following renovations were carried out. New entrance was on the south side entrance was moved to the east end and a porch was placed on the porch a record player was purchased and a piano repaired and organ. A partition and the furnace were moved to make better use of space available with one room being used as a classroom and the other as a recreation room. New desks and new lighting were added in 1949.

A strong community spirit existed in S.S. #12 section and when a job needed to be done at the school

ing of John Walker's [illegible] Dec. 26, 1889. The decision was reached due to over-crowding of [illegible] one and one quarter [illegible] and known as [illegible] school.

[illegible] and his wife [illegible] three-quarters [illegible]

[illegible] were the first teachers. Miss Anna [illegible]

[illegible] started [illegible] taught [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the only [illegible] teachers [illegible] the area.

[illegible]

[illegible] board [illegible]

[illegible] Miss Agnes [illegible] Miss [illegible] years later [illegible] was re-opened, followed by Mrs. Mary [illegible]

There were several music supervisors. The last school board members were Francis Coleman, James M Scott and W J McDowell (secretary-treasurer). Since then pupils from this section were transported to S S 4.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Sometimes I think we over praise
The glories of the good old days
In good old days strong men were able
To cut the grain with scythe and cradle
And then there came a fancy reaper
That cut the grain a great deal cheaper
Then men just worked to beat the band
To tie the bundles up by hand.
And then there came that binder thing
That tied the bundles up with string.
Then came the job that really hurt
We threshed the grain amidst dust and dirt
Until we got the grain combine
That did not use a bit of twine'
It did not seem to change the yield
But threshed the grain out in the field.
The tallow light was not too bright
And then we had the candle light.
And candle light as we have seen
Was followed by the kerosene
And then - we had electric light
So men could work both day and night.
I guess we're too close up to see
How good the new times really be

by Sodbuster

Farms and Families

SCOTT POULTRY FARMS and
THE INTERNATIONAL PLOWING MATCH

James M. Scott is the founder of the Scott Poultry Farms which is to-day one of the larger poultry establishments in the Province of Ontario. In the fall of 1920 he took over the farm flock of 40 Barred Rock hens - this was at the time when early winter eggs were unthought of - but through the use of fresh meat scraps, careful feeding, good management and the extension of daylight by artificial lighting, his small flock gave exceptionally high production throughout the years. This gave him encouragement to continue and was the foundation of to-days high enterprise - one of the larger poultry establishments in Ontario.

The next year his poultry plant had increased to 90 pullets housed in the stable. Along with a 60 egg incubator, a second hand brooder house, purchased for $5.00, and a small coal burning brooder stove was the second step.

Year by year by wise planning and shrewd business practices his business grew by leaps and bounds until to-day his poultry business occupies 412 acres in one block and includes four sets of farm buildings equipped with the most modern poultry equipment available. Incubators with a capacity for hatching more than

a successful match to be held at the same site four months later.

The week end prior to the match the location looked magnificent. Lush grass could never have been greener nor skies bluer. Colorful buildings, tents and flags added to the picture out. the afternoon before it was to open skies became dark and rain began to fall. All the work and planning that had gone into making it one of the largest International Matches ever held was about to be almost washed out.

In spite of the difficulties those in charge carried bravely on and all the evening events and most of the other events except the fancy parade went on as scheduled. In all over the weather the Match was extended one day, rain and more rain fell.

However the International was a success financially, as well and all concerned did their best.

A highlight of the Stewart daughter of Warden Kenneth Stewart was selected queen of the Barrow.

Mayor of the United City was James M. Scott, owner and operator of Scott Poultry Farms while son Bill was deputy mayor. Close to 100 acres were in use or optioned for the event.

E. A. Lashley secretary-manager of the O. P. A. reported at the annual meeting that the site had been perfect, administration the very best, the weatherman being the only one who did not co-operate.

THE EVANS FAMILY

The Evans family were among the first to settle in McKillop Township. Fortunately they had acquired what was then considered a good education, and were able to play an active part in the development of the community.

There were two men, Joseph and William, and two sisters. One sister married a Dorsey and moved

away the other married Thomas Tully and lived on the farm now occupied by Matthew Murray. He had a family of five sons and four daughters. One son remained and went to live in North Dakota. The daughters who married, some had farms.

Joseph Evans had a family of five sons and two daughters. Several went to the United States to live. The Evans family were active in church affairs, council and county councils and served as justices of the Peace for many years and also were members of the McKillop Fire Insurance Company.

Joseph Evans and Robert Turnbull were township auditors in 1884 and Simon Shannon treasurer.

THE CAMPBELL FARM

In 1832 the Canada Company took over from the crown a large tract of land in the Township of McKillop. About fifteen years later the land was taken up by an enterprising Irishman from County Armagh named Robert Campbell. His name was Robert Campbell, grandfather of Robert W. Campbell. It was he who began clearing this property. He had married Grace Turnbull, daughter of William Turnbull and Mary Arbuckle of Carnbroe, near Stewarton, Ayrshire, Scotland, before they settled on the present farm. Robert and Ann had four children: Margaret Ann, born in 1849, Mary Jane and Robert Alexander. The log house was on a small knoll on the present garage site. The stone for the large cellar and basement was from a quarry on the north part of the farm. The log house was a small one at the end. The first barn was built on the same location as the present one. The present house was built in 1870 by William Thomson, a stone mason and plasterer. Oak trim and baseboards from grained woodwork and interior painting. The doors and window sills are of stone brought by sleigh

[illegible]NSTON HALL FARM

Thornton Hall Farm [illegible] on the north side of [illegible] highway [illegible] and one quarter [illegible] west of Seaforth [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] after [illegible] father [illegible] many years.

[illegible] after three [illegible] there [illegible] and [illegible] After three years there [illegible] married Miss [illegible] on the [illegible] farm.

A [illegible] house was [illegible] considerable [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] A [illegible] house was [illegible] seven [illegible]

[illegible] years [illegible] Meyer [illegible] with [illegible] had been noted [illegible]

[illegible] near [illegible] house [illegible] After her death [illegible] placed on the Meyer [illegible] cemetery where [illegible]

[illegible] purchased the [illegible] the year he married Annie [illegible] daughter of [illegible] Mr. [illegible] assisted him [illegible] Mr. and Mrs. Scott retired to Seaforth in 19[illegible] Andrew [illegible] purchased the farm in [illegible] and Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] Scott retired to Seaforth.

THE FRANK [illegible] FARM

Frank [illegible] formerly lived [illegible] bought [illegible] He was a [illegible] The area [illegible] he made his home had never been plowed until it was turned over [illegible]

[illegible] and the [illegible] pasture and [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] large stone [illegible]

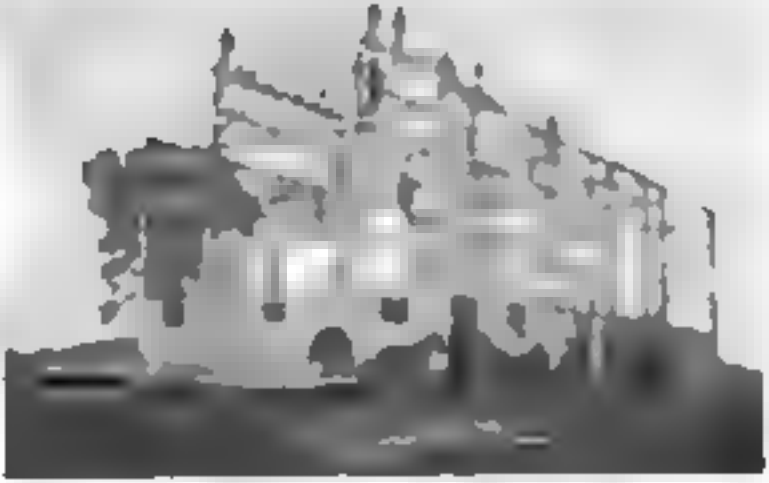
[illegible] the farm [illegible]

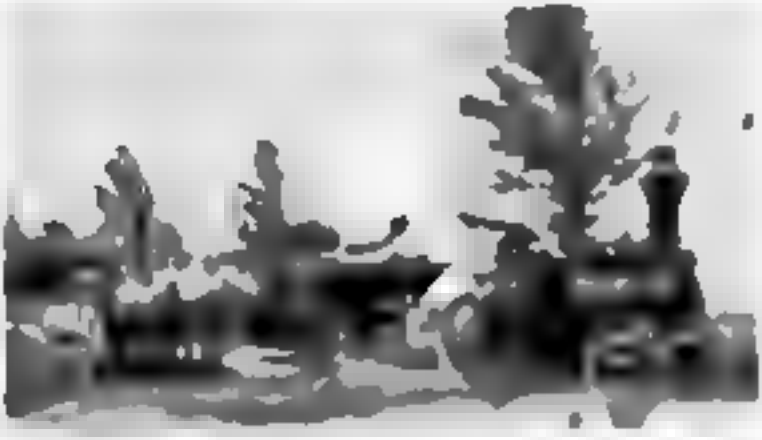
[illegible] a year [illegible] a sand pit supplied building material for half the Town of

Seaforth and surrounding countryside. The pavements of Seaforth were built of this material.

The Cases had a pair of Shetland ponies from Scotland, which were an enjoyment for children of the area. Mr Case died in 1891 and his wife, who kept a beautiful garden of plants and shrubs, died about 1917.

The Golf Club ceased operations about 1949 and the Case house was vacant for a few years. Brad Smith bought the house and tennis court about 1951. Frank King owns the lot between the driveway and the hospital fence and back even with the back of the Smith lot. Dale Nixon owns the rest of the farm, 85 or 90 acres.





Business Through the Years

WINTHROP CHEESE AND BUTTER FACTORY

December 3, 1872 - John C. Morrison proposes going into the cheese business at Winthrop. Timber is on the ground for a new factory and he has engaged an experienced cheesemaker, William Hill. The building is to be in the shape of a T. The main building with the end towards the road is to be 45 by 28 feet, with weighing and vat room underneath, 24 by 28 feet. A press room, 24 by 16 feet is to be built to the west side and an engine room 20 by 14 feet is to be on the east side. Excellent spring water is available. Quite a large number of cows have already been guaranteed to supply milk.

It was open from May 5 to October, 1873. H. Iverson was the largest contributor and received $284.92 for the season.

Cheese made by Hall and Morrison in 1874 won a first prize at Central Fair, Guelph. In 1880 cheese sold for 11 cents a pound and butter 25 cents. The next year cheese sold for one half cent a pound more and patrons received one cent a gallon for skim milk.

In 1882 the factory was operated by James Kerr, Thomas Ross and Francis Morrison. That summer the factory received 642,674 pounds of milk and made 60,060 pounds of cheese. 10.41 pounds milk made one

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

In 1907 there were rumors that telephone lines

to serve the population in the township were to become a reality. In March 1908 canvassing for telephone installations was carried out with a meeting called to form a company and lay plans to build a line. An interim committee was set up with Robert Scarlett president, John McGavin vice-president and James Kerr secretary-treasurer. Robert and Mike Broderick Seaforth addressed the meeting and extolled the benefits of the wonder of the age.

Canvassers named were W. McGavin, James Smith, Hugh Alexander, Charles Little, George McKee, John M[illegible], Owen Sick, Adam Hossack, James Kerr and [illegible] Hearn.

The canvass was fairly successful but they decided to delay action until a scheme for an extended line to Walton was in existance and an area south of Seaforth was investigated.

On April [illegible] a meeting was planned to form a company known as the McKillop Rural Telephone Company. A canvass for stock was planned from Seaforth to Walton with applications. A charter was to be applied for. Provisional directors named were Robert Scarlett, James Kerr, [illegible] Hall, John Smith, [illegible] Hearn and Robert Sproat.

At this point [illegible] was raised as to rate and install telephone charges. The proposed rate was $[illegible] other areas were researched.

May [illegible] the three provisional directors appointed to attend the building committee of the McKillop Municipal Telephone and purchase of supplies met at A. A. Cat[illegible]'s store in Winthrop.

Moved by [illegible] and seconded by Geo. Hearn that [illegible] Hossack be secretary. Carried.

Moved by [illegible] and seconded by J. M. Hossack that George Hearn be president. Carried.

Moved by [illegible] Hearn and seconded by J. M. Hossack that [illegible] should be treasurer. Carried.

Geo. L. [illegible] Hearn, Secretary

[illegible] Telephone System [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] was moved by [illegible] and seconded by George [illegible] that [illegible] was to receive $100 for the

contract of putting up the telephone line he to do all the work and make a satisfactory job arrived

Then [illegible] agreed to build the line and do all the work and guarantee it gave satisfactory [illegible] paying [illegible]

[illegible] the cost of the line was completed [illegible] and when we were [illegible]

The first message over the new line was made by Thomas [illegible] to [illegible] Their were [illegible] and [illegible] strung and [illegible] the first on the line

The poles were provided [illegible] Seattle [illegible] Under the [illegible] Alexander [illegible] added the [illegible] [illegible] Alexander [illegible] Rumer Barrett [illegible] Perry [illegible] [illegible] were [illegible] [illegible]

A [illegible] was agreed [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] repairing [illegible] keep it [illegible] and [illegible] $ [illegible]

[illegible] was extended [illegible] Seattle and [illegible] telephone [illegible]

A [illegible] was [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] $ [illegible] the telephone and $ [illegible] the extension

[illegible] the Mutual Telephone System was granted [illegible] a $ [illegible] for [illegible] [illegible] in the township and

to d at was est mated to cost $4100

The f rst d al telephone was nstalled n the W llia
an d g and h me n h ghway Hazlett mash p
he kn p eyes now operated n Gillett ley
W rra ndst mash ps ha ng dropped fo ermouth
a

ts he ndergr nd wate was extended
and t was ex hat a ng n the ket was
ea g a bet e here

he hange o was ade omplete on Sun
d y ay e was hap rman n ver
a ve ph A ng n t The
w ge ne ti e ea l ays to
e r at h as ge ert l ke an
ge ate with
ea
d w a ve ng
e ng
pr a g ggest n and
sp ne ph T p ne pen pur have
ne ve ll ve ve

A N p T l p

W h q d ere ed n the
area ea ate ha e p a ph ne n a
ph l a e ea ph W h the f rst
ne a ge h d and te ph ne
ga ghte n h d ma a de ng a fe n ve
k d a ha ha e ga e d.
a led h a ne ha e ph ne and
p a a ll ve ea
ea a e a ne and ade with
a ea ng e p e a ve ne ened
a p t f a e p wa a W h p
A h a ga h be ve bug
ew p h a a d the a A e ne ha ga
a ne the ee ore d ne a ne a d d

the new and gr[illegible] two blacksmith shops two taver[illegible] a hotel a brick yard and a cheese and butter factory with a large hog pen nearby

Times were good at Wathrop [illegible] Mr [illegible] died He sold [illegible] business and had the post [illegible] A daughter married and moved to Alma Mrs [illegible] died [illegible] daughter Kate who had helped her moved to Portland

[illegible] Montgomery ran [illegible] business and operated [illegible] A barn is given away the Montgomery and [illegible] By then the country round about was well settled the city [illegible] the grain [illegible] at the big brick shop was and sons and daughters moved greener fields and Wathrop [illegible] new identity as just a corner with a [illegible] a few houses and one saloon

Then [illegible] The Ace White [illegible] an [illegible] good Scotch [illegible] He was the first and add [illegible] almost [illegible] years [illegible] a year [illegible] it smith [illegible] store [illegible] place [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] burning [illegible] has been [illegible] The next owner [illegible] new store was [illegible] and [illegible] bought the [illegible] and he [illegible] Portland [illegible] village

[illegible] erected a large [illegible] and [illegible] other [illegible] rooms [illegible] operates he [illegible]

Alan A [illegible] at [illegible] Wathrop later [illegible] Bennett [illegible] Bullard and [illegible] operated a [illegible] shop Fred Horne owned a wagon shop and a blacksmith shop had a buggy factory next door and a [illegible] of one of the northeast [illegible] the Wathrop M.E. church had been [illegible] Methodist [illegible] was sold to [illegible] Milling Company

The Covenlock Mills June 5, 1875 fire destroyed the saw mill owned by John Covenlock and operated by Andrew Covenlock. It had cost $5000 to build and $5000 worth of lumber was also lost. It was rebuilt and in 1880 had a windmill installed over the well for the saw and grist mills. A news item in March 1889 stated that around Andrew Covenlock's saw mill, grist mill and general store Winthrop was booming. Robert Covenlock died in 1930 he had lived in Mickillop 50 years. Besides being an organizer of the businesses, he was an elder in Winthrop church for 5 years and active on Sunday School work.

The village also boasts a four acre recreation field.

A few years ago in the village of the modern new township community building was built at a cost running around $20,000. Bernard Jemmett and Sons Brussels was the contractor. On Friday, Nov. 26, 1954 the Hon. C. S. McNaughton, then Minister of Highways officially opened the building. Several other dignitaries were in attendance.

THE McKILLOP MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

The company originated at a meeting of interested persons held in the Commercial Hotel on Wednesday March [illegible]. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the formation of a farmers fire insurance company. When the company was formed the above name was chosen. Later the same month at a meeting more than the amount of insurance required for organization was secured. The directors were elected on April [illegible] five from each of the townships of McKillop, Tuckersmith and Hibbert. Then a few days later the following officers were elected: president, John Greenwell; vice president, W. J. Shannon; secretary treasurer, M. Y. McLean. The first agents appointed were David Sproat, Robert McMillan and Thomas Neilands. McKillop direc-

[illegible]

wh ch s supplied from a 10- inch well drilled in 96 by W D Hopper and Sons. and supplies 300 gallons a minute

Stone sand and gravel are delivered by trucks of varying capacities which are loaded by gravity from storage hoppers As loaded trucks leave they are weighed on platform scales that automatically print the load s weight Scales 50 feet in length weigh loads up to 50 tons Aggregates from the Kling pits are used in increasing quantities for concrete requirements and for asphalt road construction over a wide area

The site of the present pit was cleared as a farm by Robert Turnbull who came to McKillop from Scotland in 850 Remembering his native community he called his new home Dunnipace a name which it carried for many years Following his death the farm continued in the Turnbull family until the death of his son. George father of Miss Mabel Turnbull Seaforth). It was sold in the early 920 s to George Auerhart and purchased in 1959 by Frank King from Henry Lawrence

While deposits on the property were always regarded as a source of gravel and sand the pits were not operated commercially to any extent before the turn of the century When selling gravel George Turnbull stated It is like selling your farm by the load

Organizations

THE SEAFORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

As this is a better than average rural area, not just McKillop but Tuckersmith, Hullett, Hibbert and Stanley townships as well, it would be a mistake not to include the Seaforth Agricultural Society. Located and operated in McKillop township since 1900, the society has been held in three different locations with three different names. When first organized and held in Harpurhey it was known as the Harpurhey Agricultural Society. The second location, in 1898, was in Tuckersmith township at what is now the town's west end where the public school and Neil Helm's Shell Service Station are and the society was known as the Tuckersmith Branch Agricultural Society.

By early regulations of the Department of Agriculture, the society was to assume the name of its location, this regulation being later removed.

The conditions at the second location became inadequate and also because of the burning under mysterious circumstances of the large exhibits building and poultry accommodation in 1898, another location was sought. Records show that because of this loss no fair was held in 1899.

In the meantime the Seaforth Turf Association had been operating a half mile race track on the

[illegible]

[illegible]

In 1958, 224 school children participated in the fair. Choral reading and baby shows were features of several fairs and judges received boxes of chocolates as tokens of appreciation. The 1958 fair had a public address system through courtesy of Mr. Gingerich.

A dance in the township shed concluded the 1958 fair.

The 1959 fair was also held at Windhrop with C. Papple as president with M. Dietz and R. McNichol as vice-presidents and W. Dennis secretary-treasurer. Seaforth Lions Club was given $5.00 for use of tables. Total receipts for the '59 fair were $809.00 with $655.75 expenditure with 217 pupils participating.

Officers for 1960 were president, G. Papple, vice-presidents, R. McNichol and Roy Waldfong with W. Dennis secretary.

Warden John Dutton opened the 1960 fair. A monster dance and draw was held at Brodhagen with total receipts of $527.80. Balance from fair and dance totalled $439.12.

Officers for 1961 were president, Ralph McNichol, vice-presidents Roy Waldfong and Fred Rose with Campbell Wey as secretary-treasurer. A. Y. McLean opened the 61 fair.

This was apparently the last fair with a balance of $6.57 on hand. Weather and accommodation proved to be problems.

WALTON COMMUNITY HALL

The lovely little Walton Community Hall has served that area well in several ways and in various locations over the past 94 years. Its use has ranged from fervent prayer meetings, lodge meetings and euchre parties to community concerts and dances. It is located on the south or McKillop side of County Road 25, which is the boundary between McKillop on the south and Grey

group bolstered by the sale of $5 0u shares in the build ing decided to move it to a more central location The necessary land was made available in return for one share by W L ar mphire on the old New property The building was then and re presently stands on the south side of empty h at S Main up at he south end of he a three on the boundary

Following ar e was the ding was ompleted ey ten sale nd ate and d e kept pa ated and the area a n p anted with ers each summer and a ood fe of ve wh y a l ree ding Walton W ch e at the age

A ar e ding was held as a b h The first S nday s e per mentioni was t Thompson, Mate ward and he rgan st and ade speech were M M tt m Bowne and W ngt A g and ubles in the bur was r ended and a ar W ll m buy Mr Ar M d m d ings' was the ope speaker

A ng he s years ar ed as a b h there were p pastors and young men from the ongregat on who entere the m stry ncluding A M bham Jr Witt Gene and Sidney ewitt wh ed in life in the f rst W rld War

Ward ha ame l ves in the parsonage and his garden s where the hur h stood

S So when the dge was mpletely done with a grand open ng 'feature' a mmerci l s talent and a dance

N w in 1 the building has been in use for a out years with a re tal of per pew by The f r s r of was p t bac to th trus s ngs ach ne ar $ an a te ber $ was ade to an opening The gr uild are ntrolled by he hall trustees and are ed f m a of and p e h h 48 50 here were 7 shareholders ar ous presidents have ved s ter duration. M ired Shortreed J y Bennett N rman W ar um and others

the best in the parade at July 12th celebrations, in 1956 Winthrop No. 813 and Seaforth, No. 793 sponsored "The Glorious Twelfth

In 1966 Laverne Godkin again became Master Kenneth Bettles is secretary and Frank Johnston treasurer

Other past masters in the last three years have been Laverne Hoegy Orville Beyerman and Melvin Hulley

The lodge s Centennial project is the installation of steel siding.

McKillop township nomination meetings are held annually in the hall as well and for many years it was a popular dance hall.

Recollections

REMINISCENCES OF ROXBORO

In response to a poem written by John H Scott and appearing in the Huron Expositor W B Blanchard of Nelson, B C wrote My parents lived near the crossroads one and one-quarter miles north of Seaforth, sometimes called Mill Road End, as one and one quarter miles west was Roxboro now

Approaching the village Roxboro from the east we come to T E Hays residence where he had a bridge over the river to his stone house On the opposite side of the road lived Willie Atcheson. Farther on was a brick cottage occupied for a number of years by Robert Hawthorne Others who lived there were Alf Brewer who operated the mill Johnny Walker who practised taxidermy and horticulture W N Watson, storekeeper James Scott farmer John Dickson, farmer Wm Summers, brick layer and others There was a blacksmith shop, a store or two a grist mill and a mill pond that backed the water past what is now Maitlandbank Cemetery the roar of the water over the dam spillway the hum of the mill stones the crossroads the bridge, the deep hole where fishing was good muskrat coulees in winter skating on the pond the picture setting of the Dickson and Scotts stone residences on the riverbank among the trees the spring floods and ice jams taking away bridges

and dams and the large elm tree in the middle of the road near the lane gate that led along the river bank to Robert Scott's home.

Further along were McDowells, Hucks and going east on the Roxboro road from the townline bridge Jemmie Davidson later Ned Hutchwyn, the Cash family Rob McMillan, then Roxboro. Further up the river beyond Hays bridge were the Covenhoves, Andrew Tum and Robbie and John Greeves.

Yes Roxboro was a beautiful setting with its ever rolling hills picturesque homes and clumps of maple woods.

AN OLD TIMER RELATES

On November 13, 1854 the first Methodist sermon was preached in the Seaforth McKillop area. Old Timer's directions to the exact spot are related thusly - Go to the second corner north of Seaforth, turn right at Greeves bridge, go to the next corner where there is a little church. Duffs. Keep on going past the corner and on the left is the old Beattie homestead. Next came the Lawrence farm which was the land by grandfather cleared and settled on. His name was James Sparling and he was one of the very early settlers in the township. Christopher Sparling, apparently the father of James died in 1854. The land was bought in 1854. In the old land James Sparling was also a preacher and as soon as he had built a little log house and cleared a bit of land he went among the settlers announcing that he would hold church services in his home.

According to an article published some time ago in an United church publication, the first service ever held in this area was conducted in that log house. For a time, apparently, it was part of a circuit with Seaforth and Clinton. It is not known for sure if a church actually existed.

[illegible]

pleasure

And there was the old pond on the Coleman property behind where the high school now stands. It always took a lot of ice from population in the spring and summer to the many boys who played there. In the winter there was always a well worn track through the field. There we used to wear the snow put on our spring skates and play at many good old-fashioned hockey games with the end resembling a hockey stick and with that and a hard rubber ball home games would have their games with no rest periods or hard and fast rules. Sometimes they were so tired they would already walk home.

PIONEER DAYS AS REMEMBERED BY MR. WILLIAM ANSCARD

Away back about 75 years ago [illegible] a young man from Pembroke landed in Carpuskey by train and went north to a place called Roberts, a small village with a flour mill, a store and a few dwelling houses. He got a job at the mill as a hand. There a man named [illegible] had a sawmill and one quarter mile up the river a [illegible] water power mill. Mann had got the timber running and was then engaged as head sawyer. After a couple of years a brother of [illegible] bought the mill and a steam boat, then running back on the river, and again Mann had work to do to build the [illegible] he and a couple of men had hard getting out timbers putting up the rig and putting in the boilers. They started to saw with a circular saw on the board ing as they had [illegible] at the mill here.

After a few years [illegible] sawmill [illegible] to Deux [illegible] another steam saw mill was moved further north [illegible] Beauchard was again asked to build and that was the year at which Malcolm Blanchard the writer appeared on the scene. A boy of about nine years. It was called Victoria Saw Mill.

He usually spent Saturdays at the mill and he

treasured how he loved the throb of the engines, the noise of the saw the smell of the timber the gurgling of the bull wheel chain and the on driver calling to the oxen drawing the big logs Often he went with the man who drove them and sometimes when the log boat was empty he was allowed to drive the oxen when he was about 11 years old

About a dozen men were employed around the mill all big strong men as each was expected to carry and throw him about When night came a man would get supper in a big shanty the men calling Daddy Donaldson He went along and had supper with the rest which was mostly potatoes meat bread and butter with black strap for dessert

His father died at the age of 84 having served his day and generation well He owned a number of barns and houses one of which were of standing timber Of a family of nine three were living in Northern Ontario and West while four including his father they followed the timber

McALLISTER LOGGING AS SIXTY YEARS AGO

The area for logging was about 0 acres from which the timber had been cut and the valuable portions taken to the mill The rest was cut down as it was of no value in those days and was left to lie for a number of years until a logging bee was held Preparations for the event was a simple affair Meat pies or hand spikes were cut trimmed and pointed Waiting were five or six teams of oxen and horses with harness and strong harness There were about seven men with each team The tailboard was laid out in strips each gang taking a strip The rule was that everything had to be cleared out and piled up stumps logs small poplars and willows The boys had to carry drinking water for the men and the women and girls prepared the meals

The bee is on The logs and stumps are beginn-

ing to move and the longer the gang worked the more interest was aroused The question was - which gang was going to get through to the other side first What with clanking of chains, snapping of whips creaking of timber and shouting of men, the race was most exciting Some gang would win and away they would go to supper Those left behind would go to supper when their job was finished. After supper out came the fiddle and the dance was on

Those days are gone continued Mr Blanchard, and so are the men and women who have done their bit in a humble way and Mr McKillop is the better to-day for their industry

As the old Indian sang as he was being gradually driven out of the woods

I am a lone forest Indian who once had a home
In the farthest of forests where wild deer doth roam,
But their forms they have vanished and cold is their clay
For the steel of the white man has swept them away

CUTTING AND DRAWING CORD WOOD

Getting two or three hundred cords of wood cut and piled up ready to draw the next winter was quite a task However there were lots of good men in those days and all could handle an axe and endure hard work all day long. I remember my brother and I cut 150 cords for Dr Goundlock in the swamp south of Winthrop for 60 cents a cord We carried our dinner and ate it in the woods.

The drawing of the wood was the hardest task for the horses and a long long day for all concerned. The early morning call was Hoo How Jump up boys and get the horses fed. We've got to get that pile of wood out and the pitch holes are pretty bad. It will be noon before you get out to the salt block "

The mother were up at 5:00 a.m. to serve us a hot hearty breakfast. Keep the home fires burning and have a good hot supper ready when we returned home. It was necessary to keep the frying pan [illegible] with plenty of prayers and to get read every night. They stayed at home and we [illegible] part.

As the [illegible] were cut it was quite common to upset a load and tear everything and [illegible] there was always the old horse [illegible] everybody was drawing wood or [illegible] he could be made to carry as [illegible] at one time. One of the other [illegible] was a friend of the said [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] words.

Tragedies would happen [illegible] horse would get [illegible] and [illegible] get up again. [illegible] he would get a new horse and [illegible] again. One man he rented hated the [illegible] and [illegible] up early. [illegible] path to the bear pens in the [illegible] and [illegible] to keep [illegible] place where [illegible].

There [illegible] brave [illegible] and [illegible] more.

The writer [illegible] at the age of [illegible] was the [illegible] and his wife Agnes [illegible] to spend [illegible] to [illegible] and [illegible] to Prince [illegible] wife was Betsy Dudley [illegible] was [illegible] had three sons. Thomas and [illegible] troop and one daughter [illegible].

The [illegible] at [illegible] Mr. [illegible] was [illegible] 1914 [illegible] near Scotsville. He was [illegible] of Ashe and left a home where [illegible] father provide for the family. He went [illegible] there he helped clear the forests with a maul and [illegible]

this place was called Warren. After 18 years there the lumber was cleared and the mill closed down. After working in other northern centres he went to Nelson, B.C. where he was an outstanding millright engineer and builder.

[illegible]

There is nothing more fascinating than a black on fire ship. The smoke and heat cause sparks and other specks of light to explode but have to be patrolled from a safe distance. The glow of the coals by night appears pleasant to the eye and is provided enough for comfort. In the early days of this century the whole of the [illegible] depended upon the [illegible] and the [illegible] was not much to see [illegible] but [illegible] a chief [illegible] and [illegible] by [illegible] and [illegible] a lot of noise and [illegible] attended to regularly when every [illegible] hours.

[illegible] necessary [illegible] having [illegible] sharp [illegible] of [illegible] had to be [illegible] [illegible] was [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] a week he was a [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] before the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] was heated [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] hammered [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] padding and [illegible] had to be added [illegible] [illegible] and generally improve the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] There were many [illegible] in the art of [illegible] a horse [illegible] [illegible] from [illegible] but all required [illegible] of old [illegible] and knowledge.

A [illegible] shop [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] before days of [illegible] and [illegible] welding the [illegible]

the tire was slipped over the wheel, doused with water which caused the tire to shrink onto the rim for a tight fit

The smith was the first auto mechanic as the horseless carriage transformed smithies into garages. The blacksmith provided a never-failing supply of horse shoes for pitching Every kid had a court or pad and a fascinating variety of shoes. The smith usually threw the stakes in with the deal you got them for carrying them away The kid who was envied in the neighborhood was the 'expert' who could tell the faults of the particular horse for which any of the odd shoes in the yard had been made to measure

Then Under the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy stands
The smith a mighty man was he with large and sinewy hands

Now Under the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy snoozes,
No horse since 1933 has come to him for shooses

STATUTE LABOUR

A record dated January 4th. 1841 provides information concerning the Municipal Council of Mc Killop and Hibbert

Regulation and Bylaws - 1 Resolved that the height of a lawful fence shall be five feet six inches and either staked or ridered 2 No swine to be free at large until upwards of 30 pounds 3. Horses and sheep shall be free commoners (allowed to roam anywhere for pasture). 4 No breachy animals were to run as free commoners

At that time 97 ratepayers were eligible for statute labor They were the gentlemen who composed the gallant little band of pioneer settlers of the said

t ownships Arthur M[illegible]son, Hugh M[illegible]arthim, Miles M[illegible]gan Last o[illegible]ation, M[illegible]hael Griffin Daniel Per[illegible]son Edward [illegible]ompey Thomas Fo[illegible]arrow Michael Braun Adolphus Meyer W[illegible]liam [illegible]ohn [illegible]ot Archibald [illegible]obson [illegible]arrow Street Robert Street [illegible]ames Wyman [illegible]ohn and R[illegible]hard [illegible]ff [illegible]ames Young Alexander Cam[illegible]ron [illegible]ohn Stephens Francis Richardson [illegible]t Simon William [illegible]s Thomas Forney W[illegible]lliam [illegible]ngsworth [illegible]homas Overton William Hennis Philip [illegible]ertin [illegible]ohn Martin Michael M[illegible]ann John Ridger Hugh M[illegible]intosh Robert [illegible]alder Robert Scott [illegible]ohn Henderson [illegible]ames John Hugh and Thomas [illegible]reve John [illegible]ewhouse William Habbirk [illegible] [illegible]nalgrove and [illegible]ohn Gadiam and James Maxwell

By 885 at the end of a half century the only representatives left were William [illegible] John Henderson and James [illegible]aff of Wadworth and Robert Scott of Renboro Archibald Wilson was elected district councillor for McKillop Hibbert and Logan that a he was the representative to what a new county council

[illegible]N [illegible]HAT [illegible]NIVERSARY [illegible]

Aug at [illegible] This event was celebrated by the [illegible]s of Stratford the [illegible]owns of Mitchell Wadworth Lucan [illegible]derich Exeter and all townships touching on the Huron Tract [illegible] Highway Along the [illegible]e Huron road [illegible]ver the Stratford [illegible] [illegible]e the [illegible]owering the pioneers had been erected Services of [illegible]r [illegible]owering [illegible]ge which had opened up the Huron Tract a century earlier were held at the [illegible]ere sites and prizes were awarded for the best decorated gateways along the way The Huron Tract was the first road through [illegible]made [illegible]e pass a candle

A long line of motor cars arriving from Mitchell and Historical Society officials covered the distance in one and one half hours of a two travelling the hundred years earlier John Galt had gone That road when

[illegible]

est admiration and should inspire us to go forward and carry to greater perfection the splendid work which they had so well begun.

Theirs was strenuous exertion he continued and they had no time nor thought of enquiring what the government or country could do for them, but rather what they could do for themselves and so they went to work with stout hearts and willing hands to clear away the forest, make roads, erect homes and barns establish schools and churches and in this way make this country blossom like a rose he concluded.

Prizes for best decorated entrances in this area from Anna Corner to Dublin were J W Beattie, W Jamieson, F Fowler and William Devereaux.

Municipal Officers

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS OVER THE YEARS

McKillop Township Reeves who became Wardens
1879 Thomas E Hays died in 1929
1889 James Hays, died in 19 ?
19?5 John M Govenlock. died in 1951
1937 John M Eckert
1966 Kenneth Stewart

TOWNSHIP COUNCILS 843 1967

From 1843 - 46. a Mr Downie Robert or Edward represented McKillop and other associated townships on Huron District Council. with Robert Hays being representative from 847 49 John Govenlock was the first clerk for McKillop Hibbert and Logan townships and Matthew Ward was assessor Logan withdrew in 844 and Dennis Downie was tax collector for McKillop and Hibbert Town wardens (township councilors) in 1843 were James Grieve, John La claw and Alex Cameron

In 1850 Reeve Robert Hays representing McKillop and Hullett.
Council Dennis Downie August Van Egmond John Bingham, Thomas Govenlock.

Clerk - Robert Cana
Treasurer - Thomas Govenlock
Assessors - Patrick O Sullivan, Robert Mc.
M llan James Longbottom
Tax Collector Alex W.lson
Auditors P O Sullivan, George Thompson
Superintendent of Education - Rev Charles
Fletcher

1851 Reeve. Robert Hays McKillop and Hullett)

1852 - 53 54 Reeve Robert I ays McK llop and Grey)
Clerk John O Sullivan for McK llop in Huron
and Hibbert in Perth)

1855 - Reeve, Robert Hays McK llop, Grey and Howick

1856 - 58 Reeve Dennis Downie and Thomas Govenlock
alternately

1859 Reeve, T Govenlock
Council - John Elliot, Joseph Evans Irwin John
ston, Dennis Downey
Clerk William J Shannon salary 18 pounds

1860 Reeve T Govenlock (by motion

1862 Council - D Downey, T Ell ot, John O Sullivan.
Robert Scott
Treasurer R Hays or P O Sullivan
Assessor - Tos Evans
Auditor - John Shannon
Road Inspector - R Turnbull

1863 Reeve Dennis Downey
Council - R Scott, T Govenlock. J O'Sullivan,
James Hays

1864 Reeve T Govenlock
Council T O'Connell D Downey R Scott, J
Hays

1865 Reeve, John Elliot
Deputy Reeve - D Downey (appointed from four
councillors)
Council - R Scott, Joseph Evans, J Hays

866 Reeve Joseph Evans
Deputy Reeve James Hays

Council John Horan R Scott Samuel Hannah

8.7 Reeve Joseph Evans Council same
Assessor Solomon J Shannon

868 Reeve J Evans
Deputy Reeve Sam Hannah
Council J Hays John Malone J Horan
Clerk John O'Sullivan
(Minutes signed by Joseph Evans. Reeve of McKillop
Thomas King, Reeve of Hibbert
C C Johnston. McKillop local superintendent
and Wm. Rath, Hibbert local superintendent

869 Reeve Wm T Shannon
Deputy Reeve Sam Hannah
Council J Malone, Robert Pattison Thomas Davidson

1870 - Reeve W J Shannon
Deputy Reeve S Hannah
Council J Malone John Horan, Thomas Murray

8.1 Reeve W J Shannon
Deputy Reeve James Hays
Council same.

1872 74 - Reeve, W J Shannon
Deputy Reeve J Hays
Council Wm Bell Alex Kerr Andrew Govenlock

1875 Reeve John Govenlock
Deputy Reeve T F Hays
Council - A Kerr, W Bell, J Malone

1876 Reeve Thomas E Hays,
Deputy Reeve - A Kerr
Council J Malone Wm Grieve Wm Evans

1877 Reeve T E Hays
Deputy Reeve - A Kerry
Council Evans, Grieve J Horan

878 Reeve T E Hays

Deputy Reeve A Kerr
Council - Evans Grieve James Hillen

1879 80 Reeve T E Hays McK Hop s (first warden)
Deputy Reeve Esther A Kerr or Wm Grieve
with Geo Howland and Wm Evans council

88 Same except Wm Evans deputy reeve

1883 Reeve James Hays
Deputy Reeve W Evans
Council Howland Kerr Wm Archibald

1884 Reeve J Hays
Deputy Reeve Geo Howland
Council Archibald Kerr Daniel Manley

1884 Council Archibald Manley, Michael Murdie

1885 86 Reeve J Hays
Deputy Reeve D Manley
Council Archibald Murdie, R G Ross

1887 88 Reeve T Hays
Deputy Reeve Robert G Ross
Council Alex Murchie Chas Dodds John Bennewe s

889 Reeve James Hays (McKinnop s second reeve)
Deputy Reeve J Bennewe s
Council T Evans, John Morrison, C Dodds
Clerk John C Morrison

1890 Reeve T Bennewe s
Deputy Reeve T Morrison
Council D Manley, J Evans, C Dodds

1891 92 Council Manley, Evans, Wm Archibald

1893 94 Reeve T Bennewe s
Deputy Reeve James Evans
Council Manley Archibald Wm McGavin

895 Deputy Reeve Wm Archibald
Assessor Wm Evans
Treasurer S J Shannon
Tax Collector C Dodds

1896 - 97 Reeve John Morrison
Deputy Reeve Archibald
Council - D Manley McGavin, Joseph C Morr-

ison
Clerk Continues to be John C Morrison

1898 Reeve, John Morrison
Deputy Reeve - D. Manley
Council - McCavin Jos C Morrison, John S Brown

1899 Reeve received $50 and Councillors $45. each
Reeve John Morrison replaced by James Lockhart in late 1899 and again was reeve in 1890
Mr Morrison died in 1904

1900 - Council Arch McGregor, J O Loughlin, Alex Gardner J G Grieve

1901 Reeve, D Manley
Council - Same

1902 - Reeve, Michael Murdie
Council A McGregor, J O Loughlin, John S Brown, Charles Little

1903 - Reeve, M Murdie
Council J Brown C Little. Wm G. Smith, John Murray

1904 - Reeve. M Murdie
Council John M Goverlock, J Brown. C Little J Murray

1905 - Reeve. D. Manley
Council J M Goverlock, C Little F J McQuaid. Michael Rowland
Clerk John C Morrison died 905
Sol J Shannon completed the term as Clerk

1906 - Reeve, John M Goverlock until 1919 and warden in 1925
Council John McDowell, F J McQuaid, Henry Beuerman M Rowland
Clerk Michael Murdie

1907 Council J M Dowell Alex Ross James V Ryan, James Cowan

1908 - Council H Beuerman, Ross Cowan Thos Murray

1909 O Council Beuerman, Cowan. Albert Dundas,

F J McQuaid

1911 Council - Beuerman, Cowan, McQuaid, James S. Smith

1912 Council - Conrad Eckert Thomas Purcell, John Balfour John Govenlock

1913 Council F McQuaid, C Eckert, J Govenlock R Archibald

1914 Council McQuaid Eckert, Archibald, D Regele

1915 Council Geo. Hearn, McQuaid. Regele, J Govenlock

1916 - 18 - Council Geo Harn, McQuaid Regele, John Dodds

1919 - Council - Harn, Regele McQuaid Robert Reid

1920 - 28 Reeve Frank J McQuaid (succeeding J M Govenlock 1906 - 1919)

Council J Scott Regele, Ed Horan, J Dodds

1921 - 26 - Council Dodds Regele Horan, F Bruce Medd

Clerk John McNay succeeding M Murdie (1906 1920 or part of 1921)

1927 - Council Dodds, Regele Thos McKay John M Eckert

1928 - Council Regele, McKay Erkert, John Campbell

1929 - Reeve John Dodds,

Council Same

1930 Reeve J Dodds

Council - Regele McKay Campbell N R Dorrance

1931 Reeve John M Eckert

Council - Campbell, McKay, Dorrance Jos O'Rourke

1932 - Reeve John Campbell

Council H Alexander Regele Dorrance. O'Rourke

1933 - 37 Reeve T M Eckert reeve to 1938 fourth warden in 1937

Council Alexander O Rourke Dorrance, E Hackwell

1938 Council Alexander Dorrance, Hackwell, P E Maloney

1939 Reeve N R Dorrance until death in 1947?
Council Hackwell, Maloney Chas Dolmage, Albert Harrison same council 1940-41 42

1943 44 Council Dolmage, Harrison, Maloney Dan Beuerman
Clerk John C M Nay died 1942 succeeded by J M Eckert

1945 47 Council D Beuerman, Geo R Campbell Frank Kirkby Matthew Murray

1948 Reeve, Dan Beuerman 1948 963 - 16 years!
Council Frank Kirkby M Murray Jas. T Scott, Albert Siemon

1949 Reeve Dan Beuerman
51 Council Wilson Little, Murray Scott Siemon

952 55 Reeve Dan Beuerman
Council Jerry Doerr Little, Earl Mills, Siemon

1956 57 Reeve Dan Beuerman
Council Doerr Little Mills, Herb Williamson

1958 Reeve Dan Beuerman
60 Council - Doerr Williamson Sam McClure, Wm
961 Ryan
963 Reeve Dan Beuerman
Council Allan Campbell, Wm Dennis, Ralph McNichol, Kenneth Stewart

1964 - 67 Reeve Kenneth Stewart
Council Harold Dodds Campbell, Dennis McNichol

John M Eckert who served as reeve from 193 to 1938 with the exception of 932 was warden in 1937

For King and Country

Area residents who gave their lives for King and Country, including many from McKillop are -

A W Archibald
Albert Bates
Bernard Brown
John E. Bullard
Douglas Calder
Herb Chapman
Francis N. Cluff
Robert E. Cook
E. Cecil Dilling
Sam H. Dorrance
Thomas Edgar
Thos. E. Govenlock
Clarence S. Garden
James Hutchinson
J Scott Hays
Wm H Hall
Wm. Hart
W Stanley Hays
James Horan
James Jamieson
George Mulholland
Arthur McLean
Charles McNamara
John McLeod
Arthur C. Neely
A T Parke
John J. Purcell
R E Rivers
Manson Reeves
J Leslie Reid
Charles Rolph
Clifford W Ruffell
Russel G. Scott
James Spearpoint
Percy Vanner
Francis Weiland
George Weiland
Frederick Weir
Clarence Westcott
Robert L. West

Century Farms

Name	Address	Lot	Con.
John Shea, Sr	R R #5, Seaforth	1[illegible]	4
John W Thompson	R R #2, Seaforth	34	7
Wm James Storey	R R #2, Seaforth S.1/2	30	5
Sam J Scott	R R #2, Seaforth	31	2
James O Sullivan	R R #4, Seaforth	12	[illegible]
John Moylan	R R #5, Seaforth	[illegible]0	6
James McQuaid	R R #5 Seaforth S1/2	[illegible]0	3
Joseph McLaughlin	R R #2 Walton	5	11
R S. McKercher	R R #[illegible], Dublin	[illegible]3	6
William McDowell	R R #2 Seaforth	34	2
Nelson McClure	R R #2 Seaforth	32	4
Thomas Kale	R R #5, Seaforth	15	2
Harry Johnston	R R #1 Dublin	16	9
Thomas Govenlock	R R #5, Seaforth	26	3
William R Flanagan	R R #1, Dublin	2	6
Richard Downey	R R #5, Seaforth	[illegible]0	4
William T Dodds	R R #1, Seaforth	31	7
Arthur Devereaux	R R #4, Seaforth	22	[illegible]
Robert W Campbell	R R #[illegible] Dublin	[illegible]9	7
Harold Bolton	R R #[illegible] Dublin	[illegible]5	8
Norman Beuerman	R R #1, Dublin	5 & 6	8
Fred Bonnewies	R R #1 Bornholm	[illegible]	9
Arthur Alexander	Walton	3	0
Harry Regele	R R #1, Dublin	3	9

Fond Memories

by
Vincent J Lane

Another old tradition has faded out of sight
The custom of the family trip to town on Saturday night
Saturday night on Main Street was always a big affair
And everyone from Joe and Dick did congregate there

Folks did a lot of shopping, there is no doubt of that
But it took second fiddle to the regular friendly chat.
The children had a dime to spend for a hot dog and a cone,
The little girls could buy a ring with a lovely shining stone.

For those who do remember Agree? I think you will -
You could get as much in those times as for now a dollar bill
Mother got the groceries and yard goods for a trade
Perhaps for potatoes or some eggs or butter she had made.

Recall when hockey you could see three games for fifteen cents,
While just the other day it cost two bucks for kids and gents
Oh yes those days have come and gone it is progress, if you will -
Don t be surprised to learn some day they've scrapped the dollar bill

Conclusion

by Mrs Joseph Grummett

I hope you enjoy the story it is really only a small portion of the events which took place over a period of 140 years. There were happy times, sad times and best of all busy times for when people are busy they are accomplishing things things which make for progress and better living

Are the people in McKillop becoming too unconcerned about their municipal life? We squeal when things don t suit us taxes are too high there isn t enough work done on the roads in my section, and so on, but what do we do about it.

In the past nominations were well attended and at one meeting 14 persons were nominated for the offices of reeve and council

I hope you will forgive all errors and omissions Some of the names may not be spelled correctly but I used the spelling which was used in the minutes or the newspapers

Those responsible for the preparation of this history are indebted to many area residents and former residents for their assistance and co-operation in making available the documents and information that provide the basis for these pages. Among these are

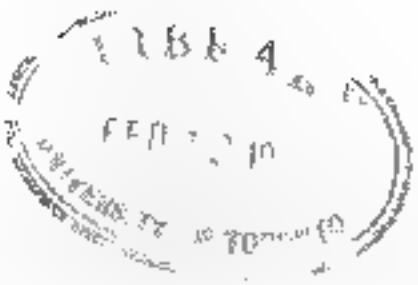
Arthur Bolton	Mrs Gordon McKenzie
Russell Bolton	Donald McKercher
William Dennis	Robert E. McMillan
J M Eckert	Earl M. Spadden
C F Flynn	Mrs Gordon Tapple
Foster Fowler	Jean Scott
Vera Hallet	Sam Scott
The Huron Expositor	Mrs. Joseph Shea
Vincent J Lane	James Sloan
Clarence Maloney	Mrs. Kenneth Stewart
Mrs R K McFarlane	Campbell Way

A History of
McKILLOP

A History of
McKILLOP

compiled and edited by
Mrs. Joseph Grummett

Published by
THE HURON EXPOSITOR
Seaforth — Ontario
1967



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McKillop Council - 1967

(rear, left, Councillors Allan Campbell, Harold Dodds, Ralph McNichol, William Dennis, (seated) James McQuaid, assessor John M Eckert, clerk-treasurer, Kenneth Stewart, reeve and Wilson Little, road superintendent

Forward

As Canada celebrates its 100th birthday in 1967 we the Council of McKillop Township decided it was only fitting to commemorate this great event Early in 1967 ,10 years after the Township of McKillop as it now exists was organized for municipal purposes the McKillop council unanimously endorsed a motion to have a book of the memoirs of the Township published honoring different phases of pioneer life

We pay tribute to our forefathers who endured many hardships in opening up the Township clearing land and building some of the finest farms in the Province of Ontario With their great foresight in building roads schools and churches our young people have been able to attain higher standards of education making a great contribution to society throughout all parts of the Continent Equally great is the contribution of those who have remained on the farm to provide the necessities of life for our urban brothers and sisters

We owe a debt of gratitude to those who supplied stories illustrations information and facts thus making this book possible in relating the past of McKillop Township A special thanks is extended to a former ratepayer, one time schoolteacher of No 13 School Roxboro Mrs Lillian Grummett who dedicated much time to the writing of this book

In closing may we hope that you as citizens and future citizens find this chapter in the colorful history of McKillop Township interesting and enjoyable

The Old Home Place

Wherever Life has led our feet,
Whatever we have done
Whatever in the storm and heat
Our hands have lost or won,
There is an image dear and fine
That has not lost its grace,
The picture of that lovely shrine
Hearts call The Old Home Place

Around its crumbling walls still run
The paths our childhood made
Still lighted by the kindly sun
The places where he played
The heart still loves to slip away
In memory and trace
The winding road that leads away
Back to The Old Home Place

by C E. Flynn

Introduction

Centennials are everyone's business, especially this year 1967, when our Nation Canada - is celebrating this notable event We are all reflecting back this year - we should remember and honor our forefathers the pioneers who developed our land and our township and the immigrants who have come over since and further developed the country to its present status People should be interested in the history of the land and township of their birth or adoption

Huron's and McKillop's birth was fostered by pioneer families who were self-sufficient in providing their own clothing, food, shelter and education. Too soon do we forget the past. Their treasured books lie dusty in stuffy attics or libraries, or worse still have been destroyed. In many instances descendants know not of their famous ancestors. It is hoped that the present and succeeding generations will preserve records so that in 2067, that generation will be able to look back on our record of achievements and progress, or maybe, errors

Most closely associated with the history of Huron County was the Canada Company - a huge monopoly of English capitalists - John Galt being the originator Influential shareholders were Lords Goderich and Colborne and some twenty other men after whom the various townships in the old 'Huron Tract were named Settlement commenced under the direction of this strong land monopoly The townships they became possessed

of were Colborne Goderich, Hullett, Hay, McKillop, Stanley Stephen Usborne and Tuckersmith in Huron County The great success attending the early settlement and subsequent development of the Huron Tract was due largely to the great natural advantages of the territory and the enterprise of the settlers more in spite of the monopolists than by their aid

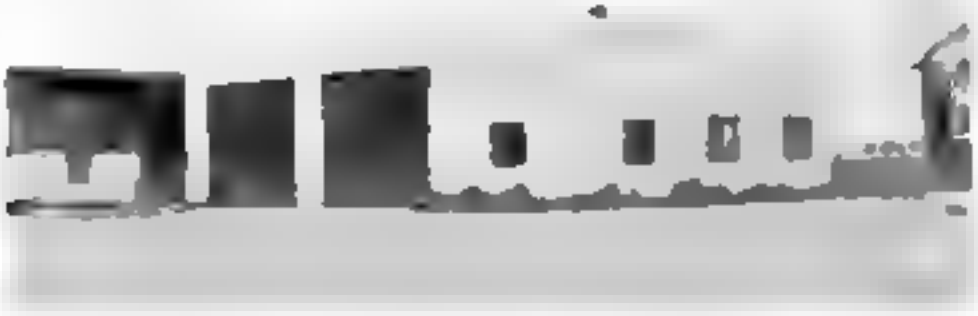
The very early settlers were aided greatly by Col Anthony Van Egmond who had the foresight to have on hand a stock of 500 barrels of flour during 1831 In the winter of 1831-32 his anticipations were realised when settlers became more numerous and it proved to be a profitable business venture

After this he kept 20 four horse teams on the road between Toronto and Goderich to assist in bringing in and settling immigrants and their goods

Surveyed in 1827 the first highway was chopped through the Huron district in 1828 now No 8 highway It was surveyed by John McDonald assisted by ten or twelve men two pack horses and pack Indians who brought in provisions and other necessities Col A Van Egmond was the contractor for building the road

The first point of contact of the road with the present County of Huron was at the south east corner of McKillop where Carronmore (Dublin) is now situated From there it took its course along what is now the southern boundaries of McKillop and Hullett. It was over this road that most of the early settlers came in, many of them before it was chopped out until which time the blazed trees were the only guide boards

The first settlement to any extent was known as Irish Settlement which developed around 1832 at the south east corner in McKillop and extending westward The earliest man to have property registered in his name at this point was Patrick Carlin with a possibility that Michael Rawley and he or both, may have secured deeds for their lands as early as 1827-28, by the records at the registry office Their descendants lived



[redacted] of Winnipeg in the late [redacted] and maintenance equipment [redacted] superintendent. The [redacted]

[redacted] Winnipeg was a source of lumber for much of the construction that went on in Brandon at the turn of the century. Timber hung on the yard when the picture was taken by Brandon photographer J. H. Smith have not been identified

in what are known as the Dublin St Columban and Beechwood areas for many years Other early settlers in that area were Dennis and John Downie (Downey), Michael Carlin Patrick O Sullivan Thomas F x H O' Neill and a Mr O Connell in the M Killop side

The name of the township M K llop, derives from one of the first directors later deputy governor of the Canada Company M Killop is bounded on the southeast by Logan on the southwest by Hibbert and Tuckersmith on the northwest by Hullett and northeast by Morris and Grey Its shape is almost a square but a little on the bias Each sideroad including the North Road (Co Road 12) has a peculiarity in the third block- surveyors from the north and surveyors from the south met there and found their lines to be 120 yards apart When the roadmakers followed the surveyors they made a connection or correction jog This jog on the North Road has been smoothed into an easy curve for the sake of motor traffic McKillop s soil is fertile and fairly level and its rolling and hilly sections provide an excellent supply of first quality gravel The township is well watered by a branch of the Maitland River, as well as two small streams Silver Creek at Seaforth and the Carrombrook at Dublin which join the Bayfield River.

Before the heavy influx of people around 1845 there were only 321 people in the entire township Seven years later there were 884 and by 1860 there were 2,425. Of a total acreage of 39, 322 acres more than 10 000 acres had been cleared by 1860 and under cultivation The value of the farms was estimated at over half a million. At first the major crops were wheat followed by potatoes turnips peas and hay Within fifteen years of its being set up as a separate municipal unit seventeen of its citizens kept carriages for pleasure

The first tavern in the township was at Carrombrook (Dublin) and is now known as Huron Hotel and is the only hotel in the township in operation

According to the Postmaster General's Department the very earliest post office was at Roxboro. It is not known how long it served as such. As one of the earliest post offices to serve the area was in Harpurhey. A Mrs. Jamieson operated a small hotel in the early life of Roxboro with at least seven in the township at one time. Some known as hotels, others as taverns.

Winthrop, five miles north of Seaforth on the north gravel road had a post office in 1868 with Alex. Murchie being its first postmaster. This small village was actually developed by Andrew Govenlock and other members of his family who had settled in the area in 1834. The Govenlock family operated both large grist and sawmills which were steam powered. In addition there was a cheese factory, a Dominion Telegraph office, a church, a school (No. 10) and another store or two, a blacksmith shop and a hotel. Other early families in Winthrop were John Brown who came in 1837, and John Bullard and John McIntosh who arrived a year later.

A few miles farther north was Leadbury which became a post office on June 1, 1877 with Charles Davis as first postmaster. Apparently he owned everything else in the settlement as well including a store and hotel. He was a native of Leadbury, England and carried on an extensive export of horses and cattle to Europe.

Also in 1877 a post office was established at Beechwood, John Reedy being the first postmaster and it served the Irish settlement in the Dublin - St. Columban area.

In the early 1840's, children in the vicinity of what is now Seaforth, had to walk through the woods to a log school - Union School Section No. 1 and a little later to another in McKillop No. 2 where Maitlandbank Cemetery is now.

In 1871 McKillop's acreage was given as 53,422 but when Seaforth was incorporated as a town, this was reduced to 53,000 acres.

The numbering of the school sections in the

township gives some insight into the way in which the township was settled.

The timber the pioneers cut was first growth and became harder and harder with age. In the homes of yesteryear there is a heritage. It meant a lot to the men who built them. Everything in it was his. His timbers, his beams and boards, his labor and skill, to hew and fashion a home that would stand forever on his land for his children and their descendants. The old house is too strong to die. The logs, timber and lumber made from the cutting down of the forest to make a clearing for buildings and the sowing of grain, were used for wooden fences. These rail fences were easily constructed and there were miles of them. post and rail, zigzag snake or worm fences, stake and rail, cross and rail with many variations. In 1883 it is said they were worth $325.00 a mile. It was also said that at least one-tenth of an early farmer's forest went into his fences. The virgin forest land became the rich cleared land that grew the crops and fed and pastured his animals. The forest made the fence to contain the cattle and sheep, to protect the crops, to hold the farm in and the forest out.

There were also stone wall fences. as the farmers cleared the land of stones they often built fences with them. And there were stump fences - the stumps being too green to burn they would dry out in time piled up in this way.

It is believed that the very early settlers brought seedlings with them, so they would have apples and other fruits in due time. The Indians taught our forefathers how to grow corn, make meal and how to use it. They are also supposed to have taught them how to make maple syrup and sugar.

Various herbs were grown and the knowledge and use of them is as old as mankind itself. Herbs were used for healing and cooking. To the pioneer wife the wise gathering of herbs was vital. it might well mean

her child's life She had no other medicine - they had the power to cure and heal

To the farmer, seeds were as important as the crop L ss of crops before seed time could be a calamity for he could not rder seeds or go out and buy them as farmers can t day Droughts, floods or great storms have been known t cause the wholesale abandonment of farms Everything on a farm had a value nothing was discarded Seeds weren t just saved they were stored It is said that if a man had no seed he would gladly give a piece of land or even a cow for some When a pioneer set out for a new country with a dream of his own cabin and clearing, he took with him his gun, axe and seeds He was a man who could cut his timber saw it and season it he could build a house a barn, a scoot, a barrow or a wooden pipe He could cut posts, split rails make fences build walls, dig wells He was sower and reaper cattleman, dairyman, shearer, shepherd veterinarian and butcher His wife was a cook, laundry and chambermaid, a weaver of cloth from the wool of the sheep she was a nurse and doctor combined, she was the heart of the home

But it was not all hard work and no play They had fun smoking hams making maple sugar and syrup, and cider even champagne cider and apple jack, fowl-plucking bees quilting bees preparing apples for drying barn raisings which usually ended in a big barn dance In the se days neighbors took time to be neighborly and helpful to one another

There was also friendly rivalry to see who could grow the tallest grain grow sheep that had the longest wool raise hens that could produce the largest eggs and the farmer loved to boast that his thresher could outdo any other Of course long before the crudest of threshing machines there was the sickle the cradle and the flail These were as important to the farmer as the wheel and the axe

How proud the farmers were in their shining

new buggies with a whip in the holder, and in the winter, in their sleighs and cutters with high stepping horses and plenty of bells as they drove to and from church. There is yet no sound that can compare to that of sleigh or cutter bells echoing through the air as the horses feet crunched through the frosty snow. How cosy it was under the buffalo robe, a fur hat on the head and quite likely a crockery pig foot warmer at their feet. Grandpa with his snow white whiskers streaming in the breeze looked so proud and happy.

Medical care was practically non-existant in the very early times. Doctors and medicines were scarce and there weren't any hospitals. Home remedies were used and although perhaps good to a certain extent, there were many untimely deaths especially from communicable diseases such as diphtheria, small pox, typhoid and scarlet fever and consumpton (T. B.). There were also illnesses classed as inflammation of the lungs or bowels with quite often the wrong home treatment given.

Gradually more doctors came into the newly settled areas, boards of health with sanitary inspectors were set up, and with proper care and treatment these diseases were gradually curbed. As living conditions too improved, health improved.

This generation has what appears to be all that it is possible to have - what a difference to what our ancestors had 150 - even 50 years ago. But do we have the happiness, the peace and the contentment they had?

Now that almost a century and a half had passed since our first ancestors came to this community and their stories have been recorded, think of the future and ask: What can my contribution and those of my children be toward making an even better record of achievement in the next century? Will it be one that generations still unborn can look back on as proudly as we can? It is up to each and every one of us to see that such a record of performance is made.

First Settlers In Roxboro

As early as 1825, 142 years ago, there was agitation in the Mother Land in respect to the settlement of the British possessions in North America. At the same time there was a near-famine in parts of the Old Country A condition also existed there close to serfdom under which land was purchased on a long-term basis, at the end of which time the owner was not given a clear deed of title, but rather the land would pass to heirs of the lords or barons

About the same time in this area, 1827, a road had been surveyed through the dense wilderness. The next year, 1828, a trail was cut through from Guelph to Goderich.

The wonderful resources of this new country in respect to its lands, forests, mines, fishing and hunting grounds became known to people of different nationalities, creeds and professions As a result many emigrated to this land of freedom The year 1820 is generally regarded as that in which John Galt became directly connected with what is now Canada and was asked to examine the natural resources of Upper Canada-now Ontario. Galt discovered that there were vast tracts of land that had been set aside as crown and clergy reserves and it occurred to him that the sale of the crown reserves would provide a fund large enough to

meet claims which were being made and many other civil expenses of the province. He devoted much of his time making his scheme acceptable to the British government. The next move was to find a sale for these lands not to settlers individually, but through a company. Such a company was formed in 1824 - known as the Canada Company. Some of its members including Galt set sail for New York in 1825. The company was finally incorporated by the British Government in 1826 after complicated and troublesome negotiations under which the company was to purchase 1,384,413 acres at three shillings, six pence per acre in the Huron Tract. Not altogether the way John Galt had planned it, he became the father of the Huron Tract and the founder of Huron County.

Another who participated in the development of this area was Dr. William Tiger Dunlop and it was Colonel Anthony Van Egmond who engineered the construction of the Huron Tract, now No. 8 Highway. John MacDonald was the surveyor and architect.

The trail was later made into a proper road for forty-five and one half miles east of Goderich, twenty feet wide.

Five years after the road was put through a census showed that there were still only 485 men, women and children in the area. But a year later there were 1,168 inhabitants, almost double in a single year. Four years after that in 1842, the population was 7,190.

Among those early emigrants in the year 1833 were Robert Scott, his son Robert, and Archibald Dickson and his son James. They found their way along the Huron Tract and about twenty miles east of Goderich they turned north through the dense bushland until they came to the Menestung River (Indian for Maitland). John Govenlock had wished to come with them but remained in Scotland until 1834 to arrange for the journey and escort the families.

These emigrants came from Jedburg, Roxborroughshire, Scotland. The crossing of the ocean in those days was a great adventure which was described as being as hazardous and rare as an aeroplane excursion of the 1920's They had decided to reach what was known as the Huron Tract which derived its name from that possessed by a tribe of Indians who inhabited it.

The Scott-Dickson worldly possession is said to have been two kists chests and in reaching Hamilton they came the rest of the way by ox cart or wagon. They spent the first night in the open with a vast wilderness and an ocean between them and their loved ones in Scotland While sitting on a log near a fire Archibald Dickson asked his son James to open the kist and see if the fiddle is a richt He played piece after piece and the beautiful melodies rose on the air in the midst of the wilderness while tears trickled down his face - something his son had never seen before

Soon a shanty was erected and between the stumps wheat and potatoes were planted They made friends with the Indians camped near by and it is said they taught them how to sustain themselves that first winter The pioneers didn t know the proper way to fell trees - they chopped around them as a beaver does One of the men, struck with a falling tree on getting up said I m goin richt back to Scotland We ll a be killed here

The elder Robert Scott took up approximately 400 acres in the Roxboro area and Archibald Dickson about 300 to the north and east on the opposite side of the Maitland River Robert Scott was an ancestor of Miss Jean Scott, Gordon Scott James H James M and Samuel J all of whom still live in the district

About forty in all had come out in 1834 including all the family of Robert Scott but one, the Archibald Dickson family and the John Govenlock family Robert Scott's first shanty was on a small triangle across from where Harold Agar now resides and just east of the

Gordon Scott or Newway. The Scott farms are known as Maitland Wells and Bankhead and the Dickson's as Glanwood.

Friends of the adventurers, Grieves, Henderson and Labarks, decided to accompany them in 1834 and settle on lands close by where all could enjoy the companionship of one another as they had done in the old land. They had large families and were intermingled in marriage.

It was hard to leave the homes and scenes of childhood to embark on a dangerous sea journey to an unknown land so far away. Even though the wonderful prospects of freedom were mingled with tales of hardship and privation to be endured in converting those forest lands into homes and the dread of their children of the North American Indians, they faced embarkation bravely. The more youthful of the emigrants looked forward to the land of promise but the elderly felt as if they were bidding a last farewell to the land of their birth.

The trip in a large sailing vessel, took eight weeks and one day. Cholera was prevalent and more than one died on the way over or shortly after arrival. One was Helen, daughter of John Govenlock and his wife Margaret Scott. The child was buried at Grosse Isle, Quebec after the boat landed. One vicious storm encountered on the way over caused the group to despair they would ever reach their destination. The terrible strain of the crossing, nursing the little sick daughter through sickness and death, leaving her remains behind in a strange country and the long strain of the trip to Hamilton by boat and from there to Roxboro by wagon, took its toll. Mrs. Margaret (Scott) Govenlock enjoyed meeting once again her father and brother but died three days later. She was buried on a plot on her father's farm (Bankhead) on the bank of the Maitland as there was no burying ground set aside as such at that time. That spot is now just back of the large stone house

where the Gordon Scott family lives Joseph Scott's stone house (son of James) was built in 1838 The Dickson's stone house built in 1851 across the river and bridge at Roxboro is the second on that location and has been occupied from time to time The deeds received from the Canada Company might never have been clear deeds if it had not been for James Dickson, who brought the matter before Sir John A. MacDonald and parliament.

Following the sad burial of the mother (Mrs Margaret Scott Dickson), families retired to their respective shanties which had been erected to provide shelter during the first winter in Canada and until more habitable buildings could be erected Evidences of the coming of the dreaded winter season were beginning to present themselves and each family became determined to better their living conditions The first was a fireplace which was most important for household needs and for the provision of heat. Some men were more adept at this work than others so they helped one another, and it was not long before each home had a stone fireplace with primitive chimneys

Furnishings were meagre and adornments few but this meant little to them They were happy as families In the evening following the relating of the day's happenings, devotional exercises were engaged in Retiring for the night they all enjoyed a well earned rest to awaken again at daylight

Another group came in 1846 - The McMillan , Dodds and Hays families, and an other unrelated Dickson family

Ten or more years later after his arrival, James Scott, whose land sloped down to the river saw the possibility of a grist mill run by water power A dam was built and all proved successful as long as the water level was adequate Later it was steam operated. After Mr Scott, an early owner was Alfred Brewer who lived in the brick house on the corner at the Roxboro turn (the house being known as The Mill House). He

sold it to Mulholland, then a Mr Shantz owned it. In 1879 it was leased by Messrs Burnett and Dolphin of Seaforth who used it for grist and chopping and in 1880 it was leased by George Pearce Mitchell. A Mr. Rock operated it at two different periods and finally moved it to Bornholm Shortly after installing a deisel engine the mill burned down

While at Roxboro the mill served people for fifty miles around, operating day and night, and it was nothing to see fourteen or more team of oxen there at one time for grist.

While dredging operations for the foundation of the present bridge were in progress, workmen unearthed an old bearing from a mill water wheel. It was identified by Joseph Scott as being from the mill built by his father about 1850. It was made of South American ironwood and is now at the County Museum Goderich.

Around that time there was at least one hotel in the settlement, a blacksmith shop, a cabinet shop, a wagon shop, a weaver and a general store

That era is but a memory to-day but it is still a beauty spot.

Municipal History

The first organization in McKillop for municipal purposes took place in 1842 in connection with the townships of Hibbert and Logan, now in Perth County

An extract from the first municipal meeting reads - 'McKillop Jan 2 1843 In the house of William Lee, Lot 19, Con. 1 the inhabitants of the townships of McKillop Hibbert and Logan, agreeable to the Act and a warrant signed by Archibald Dickson and William Chalk esquires, two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace The meeting having proceeded called Alex Cameron to the chair, and John Govenlock, having been proposed and seconded as township clerk for the current year, and Adolphus Meyer, having also been proposed and seconded for clerk, and the votes having been taken for each, it was found that John Govenlock was duly elected for the ensuing year The same minutes show that the above meeting elected Matthew Ward of Logan, Assessor, Dennis Downie, tax collector and James Grieve, John Laidlaw and Alex Cameron, township wardens (councillors).

Among those whose names we see in connection with various offices for that year were : John Croil, John Balger, Henry O Neill, James Cluff, Wm Habkirk, Robert Scott, S Meyer, John Kenna, William Cluff, M Cana, Joseph Jenkins, Patrick Carlin, High McCann, Robert and Edward Downie, John Lapslie, Peter McCann,

John Henderson, Alex Wilson, the majority of whom being residents of McKillop, would seem to indicate that this township contained at the time a greater population than the other two

Logan withdrew in 1844 followed closely by Hibbert but there was always a municipal union with one or more of the following - Hullett Morris, Grey or Howick until 1854

In 1850 under the first year of the Municipal Act councillors elected included - Robert Hays, Dennis Downie August Van Egmond John Bingham and Thomas Govenlock (representing McKillop Hibbert and Hullett)

In 1854, Robert Hays was reeve of McKillop and Grey and the next year was reeve of Howick also - the last year of the union John O Sullivan was clerk for both McKillop in Huron and Hibbert in Perth.

For a good many years council had a different meeting place for each meeting and always at a hotel of which there was at least seven for some time The following is a sample of a meeting or portion thereof - Oct 10, 1859 Proceedings of Municipal Corporation of McKillop, council meeting at Robert Hanna's hotel, Thomas Govenlock, reeve in the chair, and Dennis Downey and Irwin Johnston. Moved by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mr Johnston that in consequence of some alteration having been made in the amount to be levied for county purposes at the last meeting of the county council and by instructions from the county clerk it will be expedient to raise one and one-half cents in the dollar for county purposes and half a cent in the dollar for township purposes on all real and personal property in the township for the current year' Carried.

William James Shannon, T Clerk

In December they met at Meagher's Inn, Carrombrook (Dublin) and in January 1960 at Jamieson's Inn, Roxboro An unusual proceeding took place at this meeting Five councillors had previously been elected or appointed They were Thomas Govenlock, Dennis Downey, John

Elliot , John O'Sullivan and Robert Scott The following motion was made - Proposed by D Downey, seconded by John Elliot that Mr Thomas Govenlock be reeve for the current year

The method of the management of the fiscal affairs of McKillop differed materially from the other townships of Huron County the appropriations for all local public improvements being made in the first place as a whole and then apportioned between the four wards the councillor for the respective ward letting all contracts and passing all jobs in his own territory The treasurer never had a dollar of the township s money in his possession or within his control the money being deposited in the bank by the tax collector None could be drawn except in order of reeve and clerk and then only for specific purposes in each of the four wards This system was used until the beginning of the twentieth century when they adopted the system used in the other townships

From its organization to the turn of the century the majority of council s business was the clearing of the roadways building of roads, fences, bridges and culverts and the establishing of school sections These sections changed from time to time as roads were built and settlers came in I this date there are school problems, McKillop being one of the few townships to have retained most of its little one-room schools John Henderson, chairman of the area board states now (Apr 1967) that of this September the grade system is to be incorporated and three busses have been ordered J W Coulter is the inspector

Roads were maintained by a system called statute labour the amount of work each farmer had to do in lieu of taxes being determined by his assessment The work was done under the watchful eye of a pathmaster or overseer, his beat being the length of a block one and one-quarter miles there being as many as 125 or more as the area was developed The farm-

ers, some of them, tried to cheat a bit on their work by using wagon boxes that weren't quite the right size. Some of them were in such poor condition that some of the gravel was spilled along the way As the practice didn't prove too satisfactory it was eventually abandoned and the cost of road upkeep was included in the taxes

In 1872 a by law was passed empowering the corporation of the township their officials or employees to enter upon any lands in the township to search for and take away any timber, gravel, stone or other material necessary for making or keeping in repair, any road belonging to the township

Farmers in the early days, had the habit of building their fences as close as possible to the roadways, so as to have as much land as possible for crop or pasture The early wooden rail or picket fences caused much drifting of snow in winter and as a result the pitch holes were a hazard. Those who have never ridden in a cutter through pitch holes have decidedly missed something In time the farmers moved their fences back and wire fencing became common. Those clearing the road allowances of virgin forest were allowed the wood for their labours provided the stumps were removed, hillocks levelled down and the clearing of the proper width.

The first record of a Board of Health was in 1873 A Huron County census taken in 1871 shows McKillop had 53 422 acres, 662 houses inhabited, 664 families and population - 1808 males and 1875 females

The origins of its people were given then as African two English, 316 French two German, 289 Irish, 2, 104, Scottish, 1084 Swiss, four others seven Birthplaces of the settlers were given as England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany and France mostly There were about twenty religions, the majority being Presbyterian, Roman Catholic and Church of England.

In November, 1875, council decided to petition local legislature at its next session for the purpose of

having the township surveyed and roads established. Stone monuments were being used to mark crossroads

The mill rate was climbing and tax collectors were unpopular Council's road expenditure, teachers salaries and the Scott Act were blamed Under the Scott Act it was said that $10,000 went out from Huron County each year so the loss had to be made up in taxes

In 1888 after serving as township clerk for 25 years John O Sullivan was replaced by John C Morrison, who had been tax collector (Mr O Sullivan died in 1899) All school sections were reconstructed in 1889 with two schools placed at equal distance apart on each open section so that no ratepayer would be more than two and one-half miles from a school and all school buildings were to be on open travelled roads In union school sections the buildings were to be left as they were but others were to be moved or rebuilt The clerk was appointed to go to Toronto for the purpose of securing legislation empowering township council to levy and collect one general rate over the whole township for this purpose No 13, Roxboro was established and one on Con 10 & 11 No 8

In 1890 municipal elections cost $68 County rate was 1 4 mills and township rate three mills May 1890 statistics revealed the following 52,079 acres valued at $,802 755 taxable income $, 600, days of statute labor, 3 414 dogs 3 dog tax $303 population 2,839 , cattle 5, 387 sheep 2 598, hogs 1, 232 horses 1 747; acres under fall wheat 3 107 appointed pathmasters 1 8 - one for every six men doing statute labor There were ten public schools, four union and one separate

In 1891 each party was allowed one dog tax free with a tax on any number above that There were 140 miles of roadway including one-half of boundary roads No hogs, fowl or cows were to run at large and pig sties erected on roadsides were contrary to by-law - the pigs frightened horses

In 1892 a total of $5, 143 was to be raised for

school taxes An effort was being made to have a House of Refuge built in Huron County

In 1894, 5000 feet of rock elm was used in bridge building In 1895 the Canada Company still owned 157, acres in the township but the assessed value was only $20 100

In 1898 there were 40, 817 acres of cleared land. Union School Section 12 with Grey was formed. Drains and road clearing in the last section of the township were undertaken in 1899

In 1900 William J Shannon, former reeve and clerk died The financial condition of the township was so sound the Finance Minister offered a loan of $2 000 at five per cent

According to the clerk s report that year, the pasture in M K Hop was the best in the county being capable of pasturing 25 cows to every 100 acres All wandering milk cows were to be tagged Those borrowing road scrapers belonging to the township were to be charged ten cents a day until returned or it would be added to the taxes As early as 190, there was talk of building a township hall

In 1902 election expenses were $55 and uncollected taxes amounted to $4 00 Land values were down in some cases 50 per cent A Canada Company agent asked council to open the road opposite lot 1, con 13-14 so he could put a tenant on the land

Paschal Pigeon s tender for the Winthrop drain was accepted for $2 2.4 there were eight tenders

Farmers were asked to convert all wooden fences along roads into firewood - use it or sell it and with the proceeds buy wire fencing thus reducing road expenses and taxes All fence posts were to be one rod apart

Taxes receivable in 1903 were $, 3, 939, 44. Two steel bridges had been built with one more planned. County council asked farmers to use wider tired wagons, suggesting five inch width instead of one and one-half or

two inches, as narrow tires were hard on the road.

Wooden bridges and culverts were rapidly being replaced by cement bridges and steel culverts.

In Feb. 1904 a by-law was passed granting $6000 toward the Guelph - Goderich railway right-of-way as it would be of great advantage to the municipality.

In June, 1904 - the Barron drain was constructed for $3,968., for 20 years at four per cent. Cost of work on roads exclusive of bridges was $820. Weeds especially Canada thistle were a problem. Threshers travelling on roads were reminded to carry planks to place on bridges and culverts as cleats did considerable damage to wooden bridges.

In 1904 plans made to open McKillop - Grey boundary road. The reeve of McKillop and reeve of Hullett were given power to sell trees growing on the townline (boundary) to within six feet of the farm limits.

In January 1905, John C. Morrison, tax collector for many years, died. David Ross long time treasurer died in 1906.

In 1907 council petitioned legislature to amend the Municipal Act relieving municipalities from part of the responsibility laid on them on account of non-repair to roads.

Council directed that school teachers be paid quarterly instead of half-yearly. In May 1907, a by-law was passed regulating the erection of telegraph and telephone poles on township roads. Two new schools were to be built S. S. 7 for $2100 and S. S. 10 for $2600. A total of 14 1/2 miles of road was to receive aid from the Provincial Government.

Two cement bridges were built in 1909 on Con. 14, both 10 foot, at $240 and $135 by Looby of Dublin.

In 1910 council pledged to complete building road to McNaught. A new steel bridge was to be built at Roxboro - 100 feet long by 14 or 16 feet wide with a cement floor.

In Nov. 1911 - The Municipality of Seaforth was

granted the right to sell hydro-electric power to McKillop and were given the right to erect poles for the necessary wire Owners of timber cut down for road allowance must remove same at their own expense

In March 1913, engineer s report on Lawrence Drain was read As no petitioners withdrew,a by-law was drafted to raise funds for construction of McKillop s portion for five years at five per cent

Total township expenditures in 1913 were $39 094 95 and was felt to be a lot of money to be handled by the treasurer for $80 Total salaries was $910. Spent on roads and bridges, $6, 305 schools $9, 378, drainage, $1 047, gravel, $o98 Value of schools, churches and halls including lands, was $42, 500 Total assessment was $2, 253, 620 lands, $1, 695, 445,buildings, $556, 575 and business $., 500 At end of 1914, balance was $880

In 1915 John M Govenlock became the township s third warden

In Jan 1917 - death of James Hays, who had served as reeve and warden.

In 1920 a delegation asked County Council to consider the advisability of providing liberal grants for hospital accommodation for the County

In Dec 1920 the North Gravel Road was designated as County Road 12 from the north limit of the town of Seaforth northerly to the southern limits of the village of Brussels County Council petitioned the Minister of Highways to designate county roads as provincial county roads as the situation permitted.

In February 1921 John McNay was appointed clerk after the resignation of Michael Murdie, had served for 16 years a total of 40 years service in township

A by-law was passed to be forwarded to Department of Highways petitioning for 20 per cent grant for construction and maintenance of township roads

In April 1925 - Tender of John Reid accepted for McKillop swamp drain for $13 293 plus branches In

July, Harry Edge, Seaforth, was given contract to build swamp drain bridge, $595 and Smith bridge $544 Township sold debentures to a Toronto firm for $15,622. for Swamp drain, for 10 years at 5 1/2 per cent the largest issue ever floated to date

Treasurer G K Holland retires - had been active in township affairs for 50 years Was succeeded by Bruce Medd

In 1927, $12,928. was spent on roads and bridges under Highways Municipal Act. Council went on record as opposing Department of Highways keeping No. 8 open during the winter season - too costly for benefit received and detrimental to those who used it as a snow road

F J McQuaid died in 1928 while serving his ninth year as reeve

In March 1929 Thomas E. Hays, the county's first warden died. He had been reeve from 1876 to 1891

In 1933 - method of selection of Warden changed. Heretofore by political affiliations now done in open council

In the 1930's the motor age being here roads were becoming more important and more costly to maintain An act came into force - those who used the roads should pay for them, so funds were raised from motor vehicle owners - first by license fees and later by gas tax From these funds counties were subsidized and county roads were becoming more important. County Council favored leaving six inches of snow on highways

In 1938 the North Gravel Road (Co Rd. 12) was paved from town limits to first corner north

In 1937 John M. Eckert became the township's fourth warden

There were no bridges built between 1939 and 1949 In 1945 grants for elementary and secondary education were almost tripled.

A four-wheel drive maintenance grader with snow plow and blade tendered for

In May 1946, Council asked that McKillop be

included in the Seaforth School Area as established by County Council

In 1947 Winthrop hall was crowded for nominations and 14 were nominated for offices of reeve and council

Nomination meetings in the 1940's were lengthy and often heated over the high tax rate for snow-plowing costs school busses and hospital grants.

In Sept 1948 tax rate was set at 7 8 mills for general purposes, an increase of 1 2 mills

Rate of pay in 1950 was 70 cents per hour per man, $1 00 an hour for man and team and $5 00 an hour for use of grader Gravel was 19 cents a yard Starting that year an extensive bridge building and road improvement program got underway In 1955 calcium chloride was applied to roads to cut maintenance costs and the next year liquid calcium was applied to 64 miles of road M K Hop being the first township to carry out the program In 1958 four bridges were replaced in 1959 three, and in 1960, three more June 1960 saw the preliminary to a new Grieve s bridge with the road being straightened to eliminate dangerous curves The existing bridge ran east west, with the new bridge to be almost due north south The road had been taken over previously as a provincial development road and became known as County Road 12

By 1961 County had taken over road running east west across township through Winthrop

In 1960-61 for the first time township owned two graders and laid 20 000 yards of gravel

On June 5, 1961 William J Manley resigned as road superintendent ending 31 years service He had overseen the transition from the horse age to a completely mechanized system

In 1961 George Radford Ltd., Blyth was let the tender to rebuild the road near Grieve s bridge at $5000 one fifth mile reconstructed

A new mower was purchased in 1962 and a cul-

vert on County Road 12, between Winthrop and Walton was replaced as a first step in the reconstruction of the road to a Provincial Highways System (Paving between Walton and Brussels was almost completed)

County Council road committee was seeking approval of paving boundary road north of Dublin to Brodhagen In 1963 Kenneth Stewart said he would like to see all jogs in township roads eliminated as has been done at Beechwood Curves are dangerous or hazards and add to snow plowing difficulties

In May 1963 contract let to George Radford for grading and construction between Seaforth and Walton cost being covered almost entirely by Province

Late in 1965 construction was nearing completion at a cost of $125,000 In view of the International Plowing Match to be held on Mr Kellop near Seaforth in 1966 roadwork and all other planning was stepped up with the County and Provincial departments fully cooperating

A new township truck was purchased in 1964 A plan for a park at Grieve's Bridge was rejected by the Mid-Western Ontario Development Association

In July 1964, the paving of County Road 12 began at Seaforth by Lavis Construction Ltd Clinton

A new grader was bought and value of road machinery owned by township was $16,000

Grieve's bridge which had been built in 1911 was opened to traffic in 1913 and officially opened when the road program was completed Cost of the bridge was $80 000 built by the Huron Highways Department with the Department of Highways contributing $14 000

Council's attention then was on other township roads especially those in the area of the upcoming plowing match site Drains are receiving a major portion of the attention as the 1960's near an end

As a Centennial project the township built a $12,000 municipal building at Winthrop the village that was once the main centre of activity

Building the Roads

Some of the early road building across Huron County was done by a method known as a forest railway It was of logs or crudely trimmed tree lengths laid cross wise with tree stumps used as supports, cut at such heights as to maintain a fairly good level. These were covered with dirt or gravel. When the North Road, No 8 highway and others were rebuilt over the years, these logs were found buried, and many of them still in good condition.

The first road in the area was the Huron Tract blazed through in 1828 now No. 8 Highway The next important road in the area was the Goderich - London R Road now No 4 Highway From Brucefield two branches were constructed one to Bayfield and Lake Huron, the other through Egmondville now County Road 3 up through Seaforth and north to Brussels Wroxeter and Paisley John Miller of Morris township was an inspector for the building of the North Gravel Road from Seaforth to Paisley This road is now known as County Road 12, north, and runs through McKillop from south to north An early mill located in Egmondville was one of the reasons this road was built.

Toll gates every few miles were used as a means of raising money to help pay costs of road up keep. The tax fee and toll gates were known as 'scourges Later Huron County bought out the interest of the toll gate

operators on the North Gravel Road and the toll gates were abolished in 1873

Edward Cash, an early Roxboro pioneer, who had been a weaver in his homeland but undertook homesteading as his first job underbrushed the road between Roxboro and Harpurhey He soon ceased farming to operate a store in Harpurhey

John McFauzean a son Thomas and another son and a Mr Mosher came into the district in 1854 to take up land They spent their first night on a knoll in the open beside a bonfire Not long after that the north road was underbrushed to Grieve's bridge by these settlers

James Dickson, who had moved from Roxboro to Egmondville to operate a store, was a personal friend of Sir John A. MacDonald when the north road to Brussels was built was instrumental in having it run from Seaforth north instead of from Harpurhey through Roxboro, in spite of great objections by the residents in both places Seaforth soon outstripped Harpurhey and a railway station was built there Harpurhey which had been divided into lots, and Roxboro became ghost towns and the road to Brussels sounded its death knell (It is said that 40 houses were moved from Harpurhey into Seaforth in one year)

A cairn has been built at Roxboro in honor of the pioneers and erated on the site of the old mill once owned and operated by James Scott (father of Joseph, Arch D and James R)

A news item dated June 13, 1873 stated that the distance from Seaforth to Wroxeter via North road was 26 miles The average quantity of gravel wanted for this road was 30 cords to the mile, at a cost of $1950 The opening up of this road brought about rapid development, mills (saw grist and flour), taverns stores post offices churches and schools and a tile yard in the little settlements

In 1873 John Govenlock built a steam-operated

saw mill on north gravel road, 1 1/4 miles south of the second toll gate. Logs were already laid for next summer's operations. The new mill started operations the following May with all kinds of hard and soft lumber on hand.

In April, 1874, Andrew Govenlock announced plans to build a grist mill at Winthrop during the summer, to be called Victoria Mill. John Govenlock also indicated plans to build a grist and flour mill on Con. 10 adjoining his steam saw mill, using machinery already purchased. When completed the value of the mill was $3,000 and it was fitted with three runs of stones. The mill opened in October 1874.

In April, 1875, Andrew Govenlock opened a general store at his mills. A workman, Andrew Calder, was caught in a windlass while unloading logs and was badly injured.

In March 1874, a petition was forwarded to Mr. Horton, M.P. for presentation to the Postmaster General asking for the establishment of a post office at Davis Corners on the north gravel road at corner of Con. 4 & 5. It was considered to be a great convenience to mail route between Seaforth and Brussels. The petition was granted and mail was received semi-weekly. The first mail was carried June 5, 1877. Charles Davis was postmaster residing opposite Davis Hotel.

Stage Coaches were in operation on North Road in 1872, perhaps earlier. At first they carried only mail, and later passengers also.

WANT AD. Stage Driver Wanted a good steady man to drive mail stage from Seaforth to Walton. Contact James R. Ross.

In 1873 a notice appeared in The Huron Expositor. Change in Stage Proprietor. Messrs. Davidson and Campbell of Commercial Hotel, Seaforth, and Thos. Bell have purchased from Mr. Ross of Seaforth, his stage business. Later it was operated by Mr. Bell only.

Apparently there had been two stage coach lines and, as a result fare had been kept to a ruinously low figure, a trip very often not amounting to enough to pay actual expenses let alone wear and tear on horses and vehicles Now under one ownership he promised to keep fare at a reasonable figure

In 1873 Bird sold to Armstrong a former owner who carried both mail and passengers In 1874 a wheel came off the coach but the driver kept control That December 24 miles north of Seaforth a bolt came out of the end of the tongue the sleigh slid around throwing passengers and mail out no one was hurt The horses got loose and were stopped in front of the Commercial Hotel when they ran into a pump and knocked it over

Sam Carter father of Mrs James Riley North Main St drove a stage coach for a number of years when it was owned by Walter Lowery

As settlers took up farm lands, roads were cleared with the farmer usually getting the wood for his labor There was a stipulation that all stumps be removed and the road levelled One of the early settlers Dr T T Coleman was allowed the timber on Con 8 9 lot 31 35 provided he grub the road 16 feet wide in the centre of a swamp and clear the whole road

The second bridge at Roxboro was built in 1872-73 the first one having been swept away by spring floods, and a third one in 1895 costing $802 just one half what the previous one cost The present bridge built in 1953 cost $24,387 with the township supplying cement and steel

Year after year the various councils were faced with road and drainage problems, the earlier roads culverts and bridges not being constructed to cope with increased travel by cars, trucks and heavy machinery

In 1904 $820 was spent on township roads exclusive of bridges Threshers were reminded to carry planks to lay on bridges when they were being crossed

Churches and Cemeteries

Following the erection of homes, many being log houses and others nothing more than lean to s - the heads of families were concerned about their children's educational needs and places of worship for all.

In 1867 education didn t appear to be a cheerful process The poems and stories in the readers were usually sad and gruesome, which to-day wouldn't have much appeal. In that year education was in the midst of being transformed from its haphazard pioneer beginnings to tax supported organized provincial systems Many resented the tax system, calling it an excuse to get them to pay for the education of other people s children.

In 1871 the new School Act required every parent or guardian to send all children between the ages of seven and twelve to school at least four months in the year It was said that parents were beginning to realize that an educated man was worth more as a farmer or mechanic, not to mention professions, than an uneducated man.

The early Seaforth Expositor and Huron Advertiser reported that in 1871 only three schoolhouses numbers 2, 4 and 6 were worth anything Fifty pupils was thought to be a good average for one teacher to instruct and control and for that number of pupils, $400 would be a suitable average salary

Teacher licensing had begun, though standards and training were at a shaky minimum. School enrol

ment was doubling and tripling but attendance often depended on what there was to do at home or elsewhere

Schools themselves were improving Frame and brick were replacing log buildings but ink still froze in the inkwells in winter Benches that ran the length of the room or that seated pupils two by two, were replacing backless benches A century ago or even later than that, in rural communities, the equipment included a box stove a box of sand for blotting ink a bucket and tin dipper for drinking water and a birch rod about four feet long and thick as a man's thumb.

Education was mostly by memorization with the birch rod probably an effective memory aid. Emphasis was placed on the glories of other lands Gradually this all changed due mostly to Rev Egerton Ryerson, D D., who in 1844 became chief superintendent of education for Upper Canada Normal and Model Schools for the training of teachers were built and the 1879 Atlas states, The Education of Huron County changed from chaos to symmetry

By 1847 there were three schools in McKillop and Hibbert (then united)

In the early life of the community homes served as meeting places for worship and Bible study As the population increased and schools were built the schoolroom served adequately until financial conditions improved The first Presbyterian Church that served the area was in Harpurhey Some went as far as Brucefield to attend the church of their upbringing, others went to Egmondville

Another early church in the township was a Bible Christian Church which is believed to have been moved into Seaforth and is part of the Brugger home on James Street In a Dec 29 1878 issue of the Huron Expositor mention is made of a Disciple Church lot 15, con 5 Also referring to an Episcopal Methodist Church on con. 12 built in 1877, it was stated that this church was open to any clergyman who wished to conduct services

A group who met for a few years (1856-59) in the James Sparling home, built a church in 1859 on con. two on land owned now by Francis Coleman (between his residence and those of John M and Conrad Eckert's), opposite the present cemetery Joined with the Clinton Circuit, it became an independent charge in 1864 and a Methodist Church was built in town (now Northside United).

The first Methodist cemetery was opened on con. 2 on the same plot as the church and was known as Maitland Cemetery After the new one opened, most of the bodies were lifted and interred there Later the few remaining markers were removed and the plot was plowed over

It is not exactly known how many little churches served the spiritual needs of the early settlers, and now the churches that have served well for decades, are being disbanded, sold and removed to be used for various purposes

In looking over notes it shows there was a Canada Methodist Church, known as Curry s, one and one-quarter mile east of Winthrop as early as Oct. 1, 1876 Two ministers were Rev Charles Lavell, M A. and a Rev Beaugh.

There is also a note referring to a tea meeting for the Methodist Episcopal Church held in S S 9 It was crowded. William Bell was chairman Speakers included Messrs Allan, Angus and Dennis, also Rev. Thompson, Pritchard, Griffin and a choir from Brussels contributed musical numbers This was in March 1877.

In 1872 Canada Presbyterian Church services were held at S. S. No. 2.

A notice dated Jan. 24, 1873 indicated that there was a proposal to build a Wesleyan Methodist Church, one and one-half miles south of Walton on North Gravel Road at con. 14. The congregation at that time was united with Brussels.

ST. COLUMBAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

The first church and school built in McKillop were those at Irishtown (St Columban) between Seaforth and Dublin on the north side of what is now No. 8 Highway. Both were Roman Catholic. The first public masses in the community were said in a tavern, lot 29, con. 1, Hibbert township and in Dennis Downey's home. Rev. J. B. Werreat (or Rev. J. L. Wiriath) an Alsatian was the first missionary who came to this district as early as 1833, 34 or 35. He ministered to those of his faith from Berlin (Kitchener - Waterloo) to Goderich.

From 1837 to 1842 Rev. Thomas Gibney of Guelph visited the mission periodically and preached in the settler's homes until their first church, a small log building, was built on the McKillop side about 1858, on lot 9, con. 1, on land donated by Mr. Downey.

The first church records kept by Rev. Peter Schneider were dated Jan. 21, 1849. Trips by priests were first made on foot, later by horse.

An imposing white brick structure was built before 1871 on the same site under the guidance of Rev. Schneider who also had churches in Goderich and Stratford. He was assisted by Fr. Griffin until 1865, who was followed by Rev. Dean James Murphy. Rev. Schneider had previously been a doctor and often ministered to their physical needs as well as the spiritual, and was known as "The Apostle of the Bush in Tract".

The first church bell rang out on Christmas Day, 1858, with Michael O'Connor being the first bell ringer. A room was set aside in the church for the accommodation of visiting priests. It is said that Fr. Schneider rode a white horse, and it is also told that at Christmas three masses were said by Fr. Schneider, starting at midnight in Stratford, then at Irishtown, then on to Goderich.

Rev. Murphy in the brief period he was at St. Columban, founded and built churches in Seaforth,

Wingham, Blyth, Brussels, Zurich and Drysdale, also additions to the St. Columban Church. Fr Murphy died in 1900

This same year the St. Columban parish was divided when a church was built at Dublin. This fine church of French Renaissance style of architecture with a 75-foot spire was burned down July 15, 1909 It was considered to be one of the handsomest church edifices in the province Lightning was supposed to have been the cause The present brick building was built on the same site by his successor, Rev Albert McKeon James S. Russell of Stratford was the architect Besides having a thousand dollar mortgage on the white brick church he had the new church free of debt at the time of its dedication in 1911 May 25 About six months later he died while on a trip to London

Rev F P White then became pastor until 1923, except for the time he spent overseas during the First World War when Rev Fr Burke took his place. Since then the pastors have been Rev J. I Dantzer, Rev. Francis O'Rourke, and assistants Frs Fitzpatrick and Powell, then Francis O'Drowski followed by Rev John J McCowell, Rev. L. J Coughlin and in 1967 Rt. Rev J J White

A windstorm in 1949 did considerable damage to the stained glass windows and part of the horse sheds were blown down. As by this time cars were mainly the means of transportation, the sheds were sold or wrecked

In 1867 Thomas Carlin sold three acres at the back of the lot in the southeast corner for $150 to the church to be used as a cemetery which is still in use In the 1870 s bodies from the old burying ground at the back of the church were lifted and interred in the new lot.

When the last church was built it was no longer called Irishtown but changed to St Columban and when a post office was about to be built the resident priest at that time thought Irishtown wasn t a suitable name -

the name of the settlement was changed so as to be the same as the church

Reading in notes it is reported that a new parochial residence was built at Irishtown It was a splendid structure heated by steam This was in Feb 1882

Death of a Pioneer - The angel of death called at the Convent of Sisters of St Joseph, London and carried away one of the oldest residents of McKillop, in the person of Mrs Michael Maddigan whose death took place Oct ber 28th 1922 at the age of 88 years Mrs Maddigan came to this country in June 1834 from Tipperary Ireland, when six months old with her mother and two older sisters They landed in London, from where they walked to Harpurhey Dr Cholls then got a team and had them sent on to Irishtown, where Dunn Bracey her father's brother lived They afterwards joined her father who had come out some time before at the Welland Canal where he found employment for three years After three years they moved to McKillop where her father had She then married Michael Maddigan who lived near Beechwood She lived on the farm for twenty years, where many new settlers found a home until they had time to build a shanty for their selves She was always ready to give a helping hand to any one in need it made no difference of what creed She had as many non Catholic friends as Catholic and never tired singing their praises, particularly the McIntoshes and Cauders who were close neighbours in her early days There were no roads at this time in McKillop, only blazed trees to mark the way There was no school and not children enough to get a grant or permission to build one There were only eleven families so the eleven men signed up as pupils to get a school after which there was school three days a week and three months a year the teacher being a Mr Low The school was a log shanty where the present school stands to-day It was then the Lee

farm one and one-half miles east of Seaforth Seaforth then had only one shanty and a finger board on the corner to direct the way to Goderich Mrs Madigan lived in Seaforth for twenty years, where her husband died She then moved to Dublin to live with her sister, Mrs John Maddigan and her niece Mrs Peter Evans where she lived for twenty-two years Then feeling old age coming on and not being able to attend to her religious duties as she wished to, she went to the Sisters of St Joseph, where she could go to mass every day, if she desired, and lived there for nearly two years and she made many friends Her kind cheerful disposition kept her up till five weeks ago, when she got too weak to go about any longer, and gradually failed till death relieved her on Saturday, October 28th. She died fully reconciled and had the pleasure of receiving all the last rites of the church. Surrounded with kind Sisters and friends she hoped and prayed for the end which came so peacefully to her

Her remains were taken to Dublin to the home of Mrs John Maddigan. The funeral was held on Monday morning and was very largely attended, Mass being said by Rev Father McCardle The pallbearers were her six nephews, James Shea John Shea, John Evans, Joe Evans Frank Evans and John Flynn. The remains were taken to Seaforth and laid to rest beside those of her husband in St James Cemetery She leaves one sister, Mrs John Maddigan, and several nieces and nephews to mourn her loss

PROVIDENCE CHURCH

Providence Wesleyan - Methodist Church was built May 21 1855 on land donated by the late Barnet Bolton and his first wife, Ann The land lot 15, con. 8, is now owned by Harold Bolton The church was built on the north west corner of the farm and had a cemetery in connection with it. Some of the old tomb stones mark

the place

The first trustees were Robert Armstrong, George Lowe, James Miskimmings, Barnet Bolton, Hyman Tyerman William and Isaac Currie The document was signed and sealed by John Haugh and James Sparling.

The new Providence Church was built on lot 20, con. 9 on the southwest corner of the farm now owned by Olivet Pryce. Some of the families who attended were Hanna s, Trewartha s, Lawrence's, Hart s, Campbell s, Morrison s Pryce's Bolton's and Horney s

Providence Church continued until 1919, then it was sold by public auction.

SMITH CHURCH - BAPTIST

The Church was built by Samuel Smith on his own farm, lot 15, con. 9 - now the Louis Bolton farm. Mr Smith was a lay preacher, of the Baptist faith. It was built about 100 years ago, with neighbors assisting

When Mr Smith moved to Seaforth in 1903, Loyal Orange Lodge No 813, Winthrop, it was moved to lot 20 con 8 - the Jim Henry Campbell farm, now owned by Robert Regele When the lodge disbanded in July 1926, it was bought by Samuel Smith s son, James S , and moved to lot 17 con. 11 to keep it in the family It has since been used as an implement shed since by Gilbert Smith.

DUFF'S CHURCH McKillop

Church services were first held in S S 4 The first baptism was Jamet Reid Kerr Nov 5, 1865, the daughter of Alex Kerr and his wife, Helen Lapslie The first session meeting was in the school, Jan 30 1866 with Mr and Mrs Peter McNaughton, Finlay Ross, Mrs Barton, William Walker, Mrs. John Cowan, Mr. and Mrs Robert Scott, Rev Wm Graham and Messrs Walker and McCullough present

The church was built in 1869 70, lot 21, con 5 by the pioneers of the district and Rev A McDairmid became the first minister (He was a great uncle of Mrs Jas Aitcheson now of Seaforth) At a session meeting March 1872 records show that the session was opposed to the introduction of instrumental music in the solemn worship of God as entirely in opposition to the spirit of the New Testament and contrary to the general practice of Presbyterian Churches

Rev, Bethune served for a br ef period followed in 1874 by Thomas Thomson a student minister A petition with 152 signatures was presented to the Presbytery asking that Mr Thomson be allowed to continue He was ordained as minister in 1874

In July 1875 a request by 23 members and 21 adherents of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in the vicinity of Winthrop asked the Presbytery to take steps to organize them into a congregation in connection with Duff s authorization was given in 1877 Rev Peter Musgrave was inducted following Rev Pritchard Elders ordained in 1875 were James Hillen, Robert Calder and Daniel Campbell In 1885 an organ was installed assisted financially by the Ladies Aid.

Other ministers who served were Rev David Carswell 1903 1909 several improvements made and church cleared of debt Rev J A Ferguson re tiring in 1927 because of ill-health Church union came into effect, Rev W F Smith, 1927 1933 Rev G E Morrow 1933 37 Rev R W Craw for next four years, manse was sold in 1947 and a new manse was bought in Winthrop Rev W J Patton stayed until 1947 Hydro was installed in 1945 Rev J R Peters due to ill health was assisted by Rev Downs of Exeter and Rev Elford Rev H E Livingstone 1951 - 54 considerable improvement carried out by Ladies Aid in 1951 and the 80 by 18 foot church shed was sold to R M Scott for $500 The next year the church grounds were enlarged and considerable improvement made to the church.

In July 1952, the first wedding was performed in the church when Muriel Esther Campbell became the bride of Walter McClure. The bride was presented with a white Bible, and the wedding dinner was served in the church basement.

Rev. [illegible] Alden, 1955-58. Considerable improvements made - roof reshingled and cupboards built in basement. Rev. W. H. Hammerell 1957-1960. Session in 1958 was Finlay M. Kercher, Robert Campbell, Alex Smith, Gordon Papple, George Wheatley, George Campbell and Kenneth Stewart.

Considerable improvements again in 1958 - coal stove and furnace installed.

Rev. [illegible] Stratton of Northside, Seaforth assisted with the closing and disbanding of the church in 1962. Bethel Church also disbanded. Cavan Church, Wintrop and Northside, Seaforth, absorbed the congregations. The two communion trays were given to these churches and Miss Jean M. Kercher purchased the old communion set for $5.5. The Women of the Church retained some articles and the church was sold by public auction to Armand Campbell for $4.00. He also purchased the land from the owner, Miss Elizabeth Hemmerman.

By mutual agreement the balance of funds on hand, $252.85, was donated to the Maitlandbank Cemetery Board to be used for the erection of new gates and fence with the stipulation that a suitable plaque be erected on the gates to commemorate the pioneers of Duff's Church and that a [illegible] of $100 be put in trust for a memorial chapel in the cemetery.

The pulpit, chair and baptismal font were presented to the Huron County Museum, Goderich.

Duff's Church became history in December, 1963.

EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

The Emanuel Church was established in 1870 on lot 34, con 8 in Logan Township Perth County the first members of the board being Christian Regele, secretary Gottlieb Koehler, treasurer and H Hoegy trustee Mr Hoegy was advisor of the building committee also A 20 by 28 foot parsonage was built starting Oct 6, 1876 The trustees were given permission to spend up to $4 99, but if repairs exceeded that amount the consent of the congregation was necessary Every family was bound to contribute one-half cord of wood sawed into two and one-half foot lengths It is interesting to note that in 1882, the yearly expense of operating the church was 60 cents per family At the annual meeting the members decided to give communion wine free to elderly and poor people of the congregation In 1885, the caretaker was paid $2 50 for making fires every Saturday

In 1887 the church was burned and Zion Church was built on lot 2, con 8, McKillop Each family contributed $25 00 and the balance was raised by notes The church was dedicated in 1889

In 1895 the board divided the congregation into classes , to pay according to their means from $1 00 to 50 cents toward the general expenses In 1906 it was recorded that the organist received $5 00 In 1937 the organ was replaced with a new piano

Hydro was installed in 1954 and three years later a new front entrance added The cement steps and wrought iron railing added much to the church s appearance The interior of the church proper was remodelled with new pews installed and carpet laid The communion table and pulpit were donated An oil space heater replaced the old wood stove. Special services were held to dedicate newly installed electric lights, by Bishop Showers of Indianapolis, Ind It was the first time a Bishop of the Conference had visited the congregation.

During the same year the Women s Association was formed

After weeks of remodelling,four special church services were held on Nov 3, 1957 The church was dedicated by Rev W F Krotz, C S of Dashwood. Friends were present from Stratford, Kitchener, Zurich, Seaforth, Mitchell, Sebringville Brodhagen and district The church was crowded. Soloist was Lloyd Amacher of London. In the evening Rev V Dahms of Sebringville spoke and a male chorus from Zurich added to the occasion. Mrs Rhine Kahle of Mitchell was guest pianist.

In 1960 the adjoining cemetery was enlarged and improved During 1964 the ceiling was lowered and tiled, the entire interior redecorated and exterior freshly painted During this Centennial Year, plans include the installation of stained glass windows

Over the years this church was associated with Fullarton, Colborne, Rostock Listowel, Sebringville and Zurich E U B Churches The ministers were Revs C A. Thomas, Holtzman, Dippel, M Maurer, Schwandt, Kraft, Fred Maier, J C Morlock, D Kreb, E Becker, John Stabler, Nasch Roppel, E Gischler, Haist Graf E, Eby O Hallman, Campbell, Schmidt, Gross (13 years), F B Meyer, Liebold, Lederman, Brox, Amacher and Shatto.

CAVAN CHURCH, WINTHROP

In July, 1875, a petition for the organization of this congregation was presented to the Presbytery of Huron by a number of members and adherents of surrounding churches in vicinity of Winthrop. The request was granted on August 10, and Rev T G Thompson, then pastor at Duff's, McKillop, was instructed to form a congregation For a time services were conducted in Andrew Govenlock s home - until the first frame church was opened in December, 1875 - four months later Professor Cavan of Knox College, after whom the church

was named conducted the dedication service.

The present brick building was erected during Rev David Carswell's pastorate in 1907, the corner-stone being laid in Sept. with dedication Jan 12, 1908 The building committee was Alex Cuthill George McKee, Hugh Alexander, Robert Smith, J G Grieve, Arch Somerville Robt Scarlett, chairman with Alex Ross, secretary and J M Govenlock, treasurer The cost to build was $3,800 The congregation supplied the brick, gravel, sand, seating and glass bringing total cost to almost $6 000

The following having served as ministers since 1875: Revs T G Thompson, Peter Musgrave (26 yrs), D Carswell, (16 yrs), J A Ferguson, John Smith, W F Smith, G E Morrow, W A Craw W J Patton, J R Peters (C W Down and D A McMillan supply), H E Livingstone, James R Holden, W H Summerell and J C Britton

Members of the first session were Messrs James Hillen, Daniel Campbell and Robert Calder, while 75 years later session members were Calvin Hillen, Wm Dodds, R K McFarlane Wm Somerville and Oliver Anderson

In 1875 Andrew Govenlock was the first Sunday School superintendent serving for 25 years, followed by Thomas Dodds who served for 45 years In 1950 Wm Dodds was superintendent assisted by Earle Howley Ernest Toll was chairman of the board of stewards in 1950

In Sept 1900 a Women s Association was formed with Mrs Musgrave as president Two of the original members were Mrs J M Govenlock and Mrs John McClure Fifteen years later this organization joined with the W M S with Mrs Robert Archibald, president.

In 1925 the congregation joined with the United Church of Canada Mrs Oliver Anderson was choir leader and organist for many years until her death in

December, 1965

Lessie M. Spadden a member of the church, entered the ministry and is now ordained. The first musical instrument was a tuning fork and there was no organ until 1895, Miss Nellie Henderson (later Mrs John M. Intosh) being the first organist. The present organist is Mrs. Gordon Pryce.

In Oct. 1907 the old Cavan Church and school, close by, were sold. John McCallum bought the church for $100. James Nicholson the school for $100 and H. Ross, the woodshed for $20. Until the new church was built services were held in Calder's Hall, the Winthrop cheese factory.

In 1953 the Young People's Union led by Mrs. Ernie Toll raised sufficient funds to purchase an electric organ when Mrs. Oliver Anderson was organist.

Members of the Board of Managers were: In 1925 Wm. Trewartha, John Montgomery, John Shannon, Zack McSpadden, Robert Beattie, Charles Dolmage. In 1938 Austin Dolmage, R. K. McFarlane, Mrs. H. Blanchard, Mrs. Charles Dolmage, Oliver Anderson, William Somerville, R. T. Bolton, Lorne Elliott. In 1945 Austin Dolmage, Ernie Toll, Ethel McClure, Thomas Pryce, Stewart Dolmage, James Higgs, Mrs. Robert McClure and Lorne Elliott. In 1955 - Mrs. William Church, S. Dolmage, Robert McClure, Mrs. Gilbert Smith, Arthur Alexander, Harvey Dolmage, Lewis Bolton, William Boyd and Mrs. O. Anderson.

At the Jubilee Garden Party candles were lit by now the late Mrs. John McClure, then the oldest living president and the cake was cut by Mrs. Calvin Hillen, only living charter member. The ladies of the church donated the ingredients of the cake which was made by Mrs. R. K. and Mrs. David McFarlane.

In 1945 the 70th Anniversary was observed. No account is available of the church's first wedding but in 1944 Helen Irene Brown became the bride of John Gordon McKenzie and their wedding supper was the first served

in the church's basement.

The first Young People s Organization was formed in 1905 as a Guild with Robert Beattie president. When re-organized as a Young People's Society in 1916, Hiram Blanchard was president. Bethel and Duff's joined with them in 1954 with Jim Axtman , president.

The first Mission Band was organized in 1931 led by Mrs William Dodds.

The church was first heated by two box stoves Until the early 30 s coal oil lamps were used for lighting until hydro was installed The basement was divided into classrooms in 1955. Water from an overflowing well 145 feet deep, drilled in 1950, was piped from the manse to the church in 1956 A modern washroom for the minister was furnished and the kitchen was modernized Several memorials were placed in the church over the years - including a plaque a Baptismal Font and collection plates

BETHEL CHURCH

Originally a Methodist Church, Bethel Church was built on con. 12 in 1878, and services were held continuously until July 1, 1962. For a number of years it was connected with the Walton and Providence charges. After Church Union, Walton and Providence Churches were closed and Bethel joined with the Duff s and Winthrop circuit.

Before the church was built, Sunday School was held in S. S. 9 with a Mr Thompson as the first superintendent Murray Dennis held that office when the church closed.

Mrs William Davidson was the first president of the Ladies Aid and Mrs David Boyd was hostess for the first meeting The last president was Mrs. John Burch. The first organist was Miss Mary Pollard and Miss Jean Hillen, the last.

The ministers at Bethel from 1878 were Revs Davey, Stafford, Baugh, Fallis, Gee Sabine, Torrance, Tiffin, Carscallen, Dever, Andrews, Baker (1905), Currie, Tyler, Lackland (1910) Edmonds, Craik, Young, Bentley (1919), Button, Dr Brown, Robinson, Brown, Ferguson, Smith, Morrow, Craw, Patton, Peters, Livingstone, Holden, Summerell and J C Britton

In 1962, twelve families joined with Walton. The church was sold, moved into Walton where it is used as a hairdressing establishment - Thamer's Beauty Salon.

The money that remained in the U C. W treasury at this time was donated to the building fund of the new Seaforth Hospital to aid in furnishing a room.

MAITLANDBANK CEMETERY

In Feb. 1874 serious consideration was being given toward establishing a cemetery to serve Seaforth and area. Harpurhey lots were said to be taken up and Egmondville had only seven vacant lots As the case was urgent it was suggested that a stock company be formed unless the corporation of Seaforth would consider the idea

In Dec 1874, a company composed of gentlemen of Seaforth purchased ten acres of land from Thomas E Hays on con 3 McKillop for a new cemetery. The land was situated almost opposite the old Maitland burying ground, con. 2.

An item appearing Dec 1874 in the Seaforth Expositor said - 'The ten acre purchase of land from T E Hays for a burial ground is admirably adapted for the purpose for which it has been purchased. The proprietors intend fitting the ground in first class style and intend laying it out in a manner which will be attractive and convenient. By this movement a want will be supplied which Seaforth has long and urgently felt and the town is certainly indebted to the enterprising gentlemen

who have thus undertaken the scheme of providing for Seaforth a first class cemetery .

An item appearing in Sept 1876 states - The Maitlandbank Cemetery is on the concession road leading to Rabotyn one and three quarter miles northwest of Seaforth It consists of eight and one half acres of land with the fall being more than 20 feet to the river and the drainage is excellent During the summer of 1876 S Peters, a landscape gardener from London was engaged to cut roads and make walks through it The sloping bank down to the river gave him visions of what a beauty spot it could be It has been turned into a beautiful park-like place

Entering near the west limits of the ground commences a roadway turning quickly to the east continues in a serpentine course for about two-thirds of the frontage - then winding northward it descends the ravine to the river level returning to the point of entrance, making a complete circuit for a drive of more than one half mile in length The ground is laid out in sections - A B and C with walks intersecting each other at right angles and on the summit of the bank overlooking the river a wall is made in accordance with the conformation of the surface while the face of the ravine at the left (front) has been devoted to vault lots a foot-path through the centre divides it into two ranges the whole together forming beautiful walks of several miles in extent Planting is to begin in the spring and be proceeded with as circumstances may dictate

The cemetery was held by the Seaforth trustees of the Methodist Church in Canada and is intended for a public burying place for which purpose it was placed by them in the hands of a committee whose instructions were to make the place pleasant and attractive

Robert Hays is reported to have been the first direct burial in Maitlandbank Cemetery He had owned the farm before selling to his brother T E Hays, from whom the plot was purchased Two burials made

in 1877 were Mrs John Shaw and R P Rogers. Although many headstones may have earlier dates on them, they were not buried there at the time the dates state but have been removed from earlier burying grounds

The sections are subdivided into lots of six, of 200 superficial feet, and as the features of the ground present considerable variety all tastes can be gratified. On Sept 25, 1876 an item stated that these lots will be placed for sale at an upset price of $10 and desirable location can then be secured

In July of that same year an editorial in the local paper read The new cemetery which is the property of the Methodist congregation of Seaforth is being fixed up very tastefully A neat and substantial fence has been erected around it and a nice carriage drive and foot-paths have been constructed. (The fence was described elsewhere as being of wooden picket and outside of that were posts set at intervals with a chain run through the top to which horses were tied) With a few more improvements such as planting of shrubbery and flowers and gravelling of walks, it will be one of the handsomest cemeteries in this section of the country It is situated within easy reach of town and will be a pleasant place to take a drive to on summer evenings or Sunday afternoons

Another item appearing in May, 1877 reads,'The cemetery is a lovely place for strolling, being neatly and tastefully laid out and decorated. Carriages can be driven around the entire grounds and there were gravel walks in various directions

Apparently thoughts were, at one time, to lay a sidewalk from the town to the cemetery, and it is written, It cannot fail to become a most favorite resort for townspeople in leisure hours

Before the advent of the automobile lodges marched in a body to the cemetery, led by the town s band and held memorial and decoration services for their deceased members

Since the cemetery was laid out in 1876 and until the beginning of this year 1967, 3300 recorded burials have taken place, 1000 being in the original part, representing the pioneers of the district and loved ones of many residents of the municipalities of Seaforth, Mc Killop, Tuckersmith and Hullett as well as those who had left the district to reside in other areas

In May 1917, the following 'The Maitlandbank Cemetery Board has for the past several years, been limited in its efforts by financial obligations These are now removed and a further effort is being made to improve and beautify the property so as employing a competent caretaker full time not only to keep it neat but to undertake more extensive and permanent improvements beginning with the part on the west side of the main driveway They are soliciting the co-operation of plot owners fraternal societies other individuals and organizations to have it put in condition for a lawnmower and have any damaged or misplaced monuments repaired. For the sum of $1 00 any plot would be mowed if possible, and cared for during the summer months All monies received as well as the total revenue of cemetery will be spent on labor and materia. Also anyone, planning any changes in lots, are asked to first consult the secretary so changes may harmonize with surrounding lots and no one was to permit any individual to contract for care of lots'

Few people realize the upkeep that is necessary in a cemetery of this size each time the grass is cut, 50 miles of grass is cut, and that in 1960, the grass was cut 19 times that distance had to be walked before a power mower was purchased

Although owned and operated since the beginning by a single church it is now a common cemetery for all denominations When its financial condition became serious, and if the present owners had refused to continue, the complete responsibility would have fallen on the township were it is located

In 1922 the committee in charge was S T Holmes, chairman, Fred S. Savauge, secretary-treasurer, Dr F J Burrows, Wm Hartry, Wm. Morrison and J F Reid. Others who have been connected with its operation are A. L. Porteous, Herald Lawrence, J A. Westcott, Ross Murdie, Wm G Campbell and others Mrs E. H. Close has been secretary-treasurer since 1961 By raising the rates the cemetery has been self-sustaining.

The first burial in Section D, to the east of the main driveway, was made in 1926, and in Section E, new section at west end, was made in 1953

ST. JAMES CEMETERY, SEAFORTH

On August 12, 1893 St. James Roman Catholic Church, Seaforth, purchased two and one-quarter acres of land for $600. from Edward Devereaux for a cemetery. It is on the southwest corner of the farm on the north (McKillop) side of No. 8 Highway just east of the town limits.

The first burial from St. James parish was that of John Duncan, 43, of Seaforth on Nov. 18, 1893, by Fr Joseph Kennedy. Before that all burials took place in Irishtown (St. Columban) cemetery, the first from St. James' Church being Mary Jean Burns, 17, on August 14, 1880 by Fr. P. I. Shea.

A new entrance was built when No. 8 Highway was rebuilt and resurfaced in 1955.

Education In McKillop

S. S. NO. 1 McKILLOP 1907 - 1915

As I sit here alone,
This Centennial Year
With a pen in my hand
And a glass full of beer,
My thoughts go back to
No. 1
Where my school days
finished
And also begun.
The ' school it still stands
And looks just the same,
To have it demolished
Would be really a shame
Three years ago
It had to be sold
And sold to the bidder
Who had the most gold.
Louis J Nolan, who
hasn t yet wed.
Decided twould make
A good implement shed.
So he bought the whole
parcel,
Land, woodshed and all
And it fits to his farm,
Like a barn to the wall.
The first years of my
schooling
The gang was not large
The three Purcell girls,
Mary, Esther and Marg
Also the Murphy's,
Agnes, Vincent, Jimmy
and Jack,
The last named, was
noted
To always talk back.
This he could do
And think he was right
But always got licked
When it came to a fight
There were also the
Deitrichs
Who went for awhile
But they moved away
To some other isle
There were Mary Nigh
(Walsh)

Dennis, Jack, Dick and
Bill
The Lane's could see
coming
As they came over the hill.
Tom Downey and Hughes
Who lived near the school,
It was Tom who helped us
Break every rule
There were also the
Flannerys,
Joe, Wes and Eileen
And Florence who helped
To keep the school clean.
There was a large box
stove
That sat on the floor
And a long string of pipes
You see now no more
A shed full of wood
And a pump near the school,
The places we went
When too hot or too cool.
On cold stormy days
I can tell you Brother'
You would freeze on one
side
And toast on the other.
The teacher had troubles
As most teachers do,
To keep us all learning
And keep order too.
I remember Miss Dever-
eaux,
Who Mrs. Dorsey became,
Without much of an effort
Could put us to shame
Mary Jordan (Dewan)
Took over from there
And some of the time
We got in her hair
Miss Agnes Stapleton,
Who became Mrs. Kale,
Threatened to put
The whole gang in jail.
Leaving all jokes aside
We weren t really that bad,
Perhaps just the same
As the ordinary lad.
There s one thing I am
Quite happy to say.
Excepting about five
They're all living to-day
I hope someone else
Will take it from here,
And I'll go back
And finish my beer

VEE. EEL

U S S No. 1

This school, situated in McKillop on the north side of No. 8 highway about two miles east of Seaforth, was known as Union S S No. 1, McKillop, Hibbert and Tuckersmith. Pupils from McKillop, Tuckersmith and north-west corner of Hibbert went to school there. It is believed to have been built on land acquired from Bernard

Burns in 1869 or earlier, perhaps even as early as 1847, as deeds often were late in being registered even never registered. The section was organized by Andrew McKernan, a very early settler and a McKernan was among the first teachers The first school was log built on the south-east corner of lot 18, con. 1, west of the swamp, William Lee s farm.

In 1872 a site was bought off the south west corner of the same lot from William Lee and a frame school was built. This was later replaced by a larger frame building and painted dark red. This school was sold by auction in 1965 to Lou Nolan for $500 He is using it for an implement shed.

The first record of a teacher was in 1868 and was Margaret Gill. Frances Gavlin was the teacher when the school was closed in 1940

R. C. S. S. NO 1 BEECHWOOD SCHOOL

In 1883 a Separate School was built one and one-quarter miles east of Beechwood. It was a frame school and was later bricked. It was known as S S No. 1, McKillop. A well was dug and trees planted also at this time

The pupils attending this school had previously attended public school No. 5, McKillop, located on the west corner of lot 10, con. 6, better known as Moylan s corner

The first trustees of the Separate School No. 1, were John Malone, John Horan and Jake Bruxer The first teacher, Miss Mary Casey, received a salary of between $250. and $300 a year.

In 1923 a new red brick school was built and the earlier building was sold. The brick was removed from it and it is being used as a shed on the property of Ken Ryan lot 6, con. 5.

The first trustees of the new brick school were

William O'Reilly, Albert Krauskopf and Edward Horan. The enrollment was 60 This red brick school built in 1923 served a community until 1967, at which time the pupils transferred to the newly-opened school at St. Columban, known as R C S S No. 2, April 3, 1967 Mrs Michael B Murray was the teacher when the school closed and now is a teacher at the new school.

R. C. S. S. NO. 2 AREA - ST. COLUMBAN SCHOOL

The first school in St Columban was built in 1858, on the north side of what is now No 8 highway in McKillop township. It was of log construction, 25 by 50 feet. It was later covered with clapboard siding and had a small frame porch entrance It was still in use in the early 1880 s but was moved 40 feet to the west to make room for a white brick school built in 1885 Of one room it was used until June 1922 or 23. After that time it was used for various purposes including living accommodation for Mark Miles who was caretaker for both the school and church.

A two-room red brick school was built in 1923 across the road in Hibbert township, just west of Holland s store, and was known as U S. S. No. 3, McKillop and Hibbert Its fate is still not decided.

The St Columban school was a public (protestant) school until the end of 1901 when it was signed over as a separate school for one dollar Ann Ward a teacher who married John B Capataine, may have been an early teacher.

The first trustees more than 100 years ago were Stephen Downey, Michael Gubens and Arthur McCann. Dennis Downey was the first secretary-treasurer

The trustees for the red brick school in Hibbert were James O Sullivan, Patrick V McGrath and Frank McQuaid.

In 1868 Rev Dean Murphy was appointed secretary-treasurer a position he held until his death in 1899

Frank McQuaid was named his successor

The first teacher was James De Cantellon followed by Patrick De CanteLon Other teachers were P Smith, Miss Harrington, P Somers, S P Patten Michael Sullivan, James McGarn Thomas Melady, E J Evans, Pat Ford, Miss Leach, Miss Doherty, Miss Pierce, Miss Killoran, Miss E Carroll, Margaret Devereaux, Thomas McQuaid, Margaret Daly, Stella Purcell, Elizabeth Holland, O T Dean, Annie Doyle, Agnes Benn, Catherine Rooney, Nora Gleeson, Marie Sullivan, Sadie Queenan and Joseph Moylan

The old white school on the McKillop side east of St Columban Church, was demolished to make room for the new five room school opened this year (1957) and occupied for the first time on April 8 There are four classrooms, a general purpose room, a supply room and a principal's room, built at a cost of $70,000 complete Built to accommodate 120 pupils it absorbs S S No 4, Hibbert, Beechwood and the present two-room red brick school at St Columban.

Van Bussel Bros , Lucan were the contractors and Horton and Ball, Kitchener, architects

Present teachers are Mrs M B Murray, principal, Mrs Marie Melady, Mrs. Helen McLaughlin and Mother Mary Justin, and trustees are - Clarence Maloney, (chairman), Roy Swart, Thomas Murray, Martin Murray and John O Leary with Auguste Ducharme as secretary-treasurer

S. S. NO 2 McKILLOP

The first school serving the Roxboro area was of log construction erected on lot 28, con. 3, about the 1850's on the site where the Maitlandbank Cemetery now is (the Thomas E Hays farm) and stood just back of where the Cresswell vault is now

According to the records available, the first teacher was Robert Chisholm, who was considered

excellent His wife, the former Margaret Dickson on occasion filled in for him Other early teachers were Messrs Cantelon (or Decantelon) and Dr Campbell

About 1857 a brick school was built on a new location the northwest corner of lot 30, con. 3, on the farm now owned by Peter McCowan Over 100 pupils attended at that time These two schools and the present No. 2 school on con. 4 were known as the Roxboro school until S. S. No .3 at Roxboro was built in .890

In .874 a frame building, S S No 2, was built on a half acre site, con. 4, on what was the McElroy farm Cost of the land was $66 and trustees at that time were Charles Dickson, Charles Dodds and George Dorrance This was made into a two-roomed school in 1878, with the principal s salary being $500 and the assistant s $250 Due to the large number of pupils, it was known that often older pupils taught some of the juniors in a third room built from the ever abundant supply of wood blocks used for firewood.

Early in the .880 s John Wilson and George Lockhart, assisted by the Rev Peter Musgrove conducted Sunday School in this building.

After the Roxboro school was built in 1890, one and one-quarter mile away, no assistant teacher was required

In .915, J L Brown, J H Storey and William McClure, had a coal heater installed, costing $26 65 and coal cost $10 50 per ton

Trustees in 1920 were Messrs McClure Rising and McMichael

The old school was remodelled in .925 with a 20 by 40 foot section being removed from the south side A basement was built under the remaining section with a furnace and caustic toilets installed at a cost of $2, 8.9 , with T W McMillan, Wilmore Scott and Joseph McFarlane as trustees In .929 an organ was placed in the school.

S. S 13 (Roxboro) joined with S S 2 for a re-

union held on the Thomas Dodds' property rented at that time by the Seaforth Golf and Country Club. The program was held in a large floored tent with a dance following. Taking part in the program were Mrs. W. B. McLean, John Arthur and Anderson Scott, Maggie Scott (Mrs. Millson), Miss Susie Govenlock, Ellie Hays (Mrs. J. M. Govenlock), the Pryce children, Eliza Hays (Mrs. Wm. Fowler), Agnes Scott (Mrs. John Wilson), William Barr Dickson with Earl Van Egmond as accompanist.

A drilled well dug in 1935 cost $346. Music supervisors over the years were: Miss Helen Britton, Douglas Gill, Mrs. Wendorf, Mrs. Phyllis Rogers, Ronald Klink and Mrs. Joanne King, when the school won its first Music Festival Shield.

In 1915 the caretaker was paid $45., in 1957, $250. Teachers' salaries ranged from $600. in 1915 to $2900. in 1957. The music supervisor received $140. and secretary-treasurer $30.

After Robert Chisholm and Dr. Campbell, the succeeding teachers were: John Dickson, Rial McShea, Robert Ferguson (4 years), A. Cowan, 1874 Messrs. McKelvie and Hartley, Matthew Lockhart, W. G. Duff (10 years), Mr. Holmes, Misses Agnes Scott and Clarissa Hays, Mr. Hislop, George McIntosh, James Dodds, Misses Linda Milne, Isabel Murdie, Ada Beattie and Pearl Anderson, James Dodds, Miss Helen M. Millan (1903-07), Miss Rae Govenlock, (1907-10), Miss Isabel Anderson (1910 - 12), Irene Pearson, Nettie Shillinglaw, Jean Carswell (1915-19), Agnes McKay, Annie Archibald (1920), Florence Deem, Verna Adams, Elva Staples (Mrs. James Hogg, 1923-25), Olive Medd (Mrs. Edmund Godkin, 1926-29), Foster Fowler, Gwendolyn Snowdon, Louise Mills, Archie Haggarth (1932-37), Elizabeth Carmichan (1938-40), Delphine Babcock, (Mrs. Leslie Dolmage, 1941-43), Clarissa Dale (Mrs. Kenneth Steward) (1944), Helen Lear (Mrs. G. Underwood 1945-46), Mrs. Dorothy Thompson, Mrs. Grace Hoggarth, Ann Brunk (1947-48), Mrs. Grace Hoggarth (2nd time), Muriel

Campbell (Mrs W McClure 1951-53), Mrs. Beryl (Harold) Nicholson (1954-56) Mrs Vera (Nelson) Hood, Thomas Fowler, Elsie Doig (1965-66) and present teacher, Dorothy Keys (Mrs Mac Sholdice, 196[illegible])

S. S. NO. 4 McKILLOP

Twelve years after the 1841 Education Act came into effect a log school was built in 1853 known as S S No 4 The post office for the school was Harpurhey Only a few records are available on its early history In 1857 Patrick D Cantillon taught English, Reading Spelling Arithmetic Grammar and Geography and Geometry to one student A May 1859 report shows that 33 pupils were in attendance No 4 school seemed to be the meeting place for school examinations these were oral examinations with several teachers and perhaps an inspector being the examiners Parents friends and relatives attended these affairs It is said that the children were so quiet and well-behaved you could hear a pin drop Church services were also held in this school before a church was built At this time William Sloan was Superintendent for Division 3, Huron possibly a school inspector

In Jan 1860 Henry James Brine direct from teacher's institute became teacher at a salary of $400 paid twice yearly the first when Government money became due and the remainder at the end of the year

In 1850 the Education Act was replaced by the Upper Canada School Act From an old expense sheet it is noted that the teacher did all the purchasing even to bells and door locks, being reimbursed by the school board Labor was cheap then it is seen by one receipt that James Sparling cut and repaired seats for $2 25

S S 4 was declared a free school to all the inhabitants in 1858 The teacher's salary and all expenses were raised by a general tax on all residents of the section, with $222 23 being raised

Previous to the year 18[illegible]2 all agreements were made binding by the use of wax but in that year a trustees' seal came into use. On May 17th of that year trustees were Robert Turnbull, George [illegible]abkirk and William Walker. They bought one-quarter acre of land on lot 21, [illegible]on 4 from Robert and Elizabeth Scott for the sum of $1.00 to be held by the trustees as long as it was used for educational purposes. In June of the same year the tender of Alexander Scott Harpurhey was accepted to build an additional wooden structure 20 by 12 feet to the north end of the old schoolhouse. The logs of the north end of the old school to be cut away and hauled off the grounds. The room was to be lathed and plastered on the inside and where the logs were cut away faced like a doorway. The teacher's desk was placed in the north end of the addition with two benches on each side for the students. Siding was to be of dressed pine and floors to be levelled and laid with tongued and grooved flooring. The new building and alterations cost $[illegible]37 and Mr. Scott's wages were $142.

No records are available until 1867 when a new common drinking cup complete with chain was purchased for 30¢ and placed on the new pump. The school appeared to have eavestroughs added for the first time.

In 1871 the word ratepayer was used in place of inhabitant. In 1872-73 teachers' contracts show that [illegible] Elliott was hired for $400 and the first lady teacher, Miss Galloway was hired for $180. Three years later there were two teachers at the school.

In 1874 an additional quarter acre was purchased outright on the west side. A new brick school was built before 1880 with separate entrances for boys and girls and a large room between which was often used as a junior classroom with one of the older pupils as teacher. Winter attendance often reached over 100. A hall the width of the schoolroom was used as a playroom. This school sat in the northeast part of the present yard.

In 1913 the present school was built and equipped

for about $3800 - three district residents supplying most of the finances to be paid back later This school of two stories is of cement brick built by Louis Hoegy for $2,875 Much of the lumber used in the new school was from the original one with the official opening in 1915 The school yard was drained and a pipe fence erected on two sides with 36 rods of pipe being bought for $67

A large school clock purchased in 1917 is still in use Chemical lavatories were installed in 1922, hydro in 1946, a new furnace in 1948, and a fire escape in 1951 An organ bought in 1927 was replaced by a piano. A music supervisor was hired in 1941 and in 1952 under Mrs Wendorf, S S 4 won honors at the Goderich Music Festival several times

Comparing costs - wood could be bought in 1867 for from 62¢ to 90¢ a cord by 1890 it had increased to over $2 00, yet two oak doors were built and hung for $4 00 By the turn of the century wood was $4 00 a cord and by 1909 coal was used for heating In 1866 a little over $500 was paid for school taxes with expenses being a little over $400 Fifty years later taxes amounted to $1200 and expenses around $755 By 1952 expenses reached $3200 Caretakers salaries went to $125 or more from $5 Teachers often took on the caretaking job for $25 to $50 a year

Early secretary-treasurers received $3 00 while in 1946 salary paid had reached $25.

Trustees in 1958 were John Henderson, Alec Smith and Ross Gordon

Many of the teachers were Joseph Boage, J Elliott Miss Galloway Mr. Campbell Mr Sutherland, Mr M Lachlin Mr Hartley Mr Hastie, Mr P D Muir, Mr McGregor, Mr Hays Mrs Lydia (Campbell) McKinley Mr McRae R V Hill Mr Forbes Misses Waugh and Lawrence, Hester Fowler, Misses Crich, Mabel Bogg, Grace Kerr, Way Minnie Wheatley, Mrs. Dorothy (Driscoll) Powell, Misses Eleanor Hudson,

R.C.S.S. U. 2 *St. Columban*

U.S.S. No. 1 *Nolan's*

R.C. S.S. No. 1 *Beechwood*

S.S. No. 4 *Duff's*

S.S. No. 6 *Wheatley's*

Jessie Little, Elizabeth Scott, Mrs Clarissa (Dale) Stewart, Mrs Hackwell, Mrs Weber, Mrs. Hanna, Mrs. Powell and Miss A. Diegel.

Mrs. R J Doig is the present teacher

An oil furnace, pressure system and new desks were added in 1965. In that year pupils from S S. 13 (Roxboro) were transferred to S S 4 and were transported by bus.

S. S. NO. 5 McKILLOP

The school house of Section No. 5 was located on Lot 10, concession 6 and to the best of our knowledge was established in the late 1850's

The first building was of log construction and was replaced about 1890 with a white brick building

Pupils attended No 5 from the boundary of McKillop and Logan on the sixth and seventh concessions on the east, west on the same concessions about the same distance, the fourth and fifth on the south, and eighth and ninth concessions on the north.

We are told that the attendance would be around fifty in the Spring and Fall and would rise to nearly one hundred in the Winter months, when boys well up in their teens, who were needed to work on the farms in Summer would return to school.

After the turn of the century, the attendance declined and in 1915 the school was closed The Section was absorbed by S S No. 6, and S. S. S. No 1 McKillop.

According to public school inspector J H Kinkead, Patrick Moylan originally granted a quarter acre of land to the trustees and sixteen years later in Nov 1878 granted an additional quarter acre When the school was closed, the trustees allowed the property to revert to Thomas J Moylan, the owner of lot 10. It had been rented for one dollar a year as long as it was used for school purposes

We were unable to learn the names of the early teachers, but can recall hearing of a Mr Phalen and of Mr Charles McCabe and his brother around 1870 Other teachers were, Bob Evans, Jim DeCantion, Ella Givan, Anna Doherty, Mary Lamb, Ellen Evans, James L Dorsey, Margaret Devereaux, Pearl Anderson Alice O Brien, David Hall and the last teacher was Frances Givlin.

S. S. NO. 6

It is believed the section organized in the 1850's One of the early teachers was John Shannon, con. 5. He had come to McKillop in 1856 or 57 and taught in the township from May 1857 until his death in Jan. 1862 His son, William James Shannon, lot 17, con. 5, took over from him as teacher

School trustees in 1861 were Barnet Boston, Robert Armstrong and Robert Scarlett and the teacher s salary at that time was 60 pounds.

The first schoolhouse was on the northeast corner of lot 19, con. 8 (Campbell Farm) the well and large elm trees still indicate the location. This school was then moved to the northeast corner of lot 16, con. 8 - its present location on a rental basis.

Until 1902 township nominations were held there, paying the school board $4.00 rental. The rent the board paid for the land was $3 00 per year and the caretaker was paid $16 00

Discussions regarding a new school were held from Jan. 13th, 1897 until 1902. Contract was awarded to F Gutteridge of Seaforth for $1, 180 Debenture by-law expenses amounted to $13., furniture, fixtures and desks cost $.83 60, extras, $26 44 for a total cost of $1403. 04. James Johnston bought the old school for $58. and Miss Mae Livens of Seaforth was first teacher in the new school.

A note in the back of the minute book states that in 1899 a 'Great Snow Storm' occurred on Sept. 29 with

10 inches of snow in London, four in Stratford and three in McKillop and the temperature at Barrie was 10 degrees below zero.

A fifth class (equivalent to Form One in High School) was taught in many of the rural schools in the early 1900's for which grants were received. A bell was purchased in 1908 from Geo. A. Sills and Sons for $20. An organ purchased in 1924 was replaced by a piano in 1937. In 1945 - 46 payments of $175. and $165. were made toward the starting of the high school bus system. Hydro was installed in 1947 and new desks bought in 1949.

On Jan. 1, 1965 the section became part of the McKillop township school area. As of Sept. 1965, five pupils transferred to St. Columban Separate School and seven pupils were brought from S. S. No. 12 by bus. Miss Jessie Little, teacher then at S. S. 12, transferred to No. 6. Teachers over the years include: 1857 - 62 John Shannon, Jan. 1862 - ? - W. J. Shannon, 1870's, Alex (Sandy) Johnston, 1880's, George Dewar, ? - to Oct. 1895, Wm. Robinson, 1895 - 98 - Aggie O. Hays, 1899 - 01, Geo. Buchanan, 1901 - 02 Mae Livens, part 1903, Tillie Fowler 1903 - 04 Hugh Taylor 1904 - 06, Melvin Keys, 1907 - 11, Violet Simpson 1911 (part), Annie Clark, 1912 (part) Olive Ross, 1912 (part) Kate Telfer 1912 - 15, Mary I. Coleman, 1915 (part), Evelyn Greig, 1916 - 18 Malvina Murdie, 1918 - 19, Edith Scott 1919 - 20, Florence Deem, 1920 - 26, Marion Scarlett 1926 - 34, Anona (Dale) Crozier, 1934 - 35, Miss M. Douglas, 1935 - 38, Alberta (Richmond) Montgomery, 1938 - 39, Wilfred Millson 1939 - 40, Clarissa (Dale) Stewart, 1940 - 44, Reginald Pryce, 1944 - 45, Katherine McDonald, 1945 - 55, Foster T. Fowler, 1955 - 57, Douglas McKone, 1957 - 58, Mrs. Elizabeth Boyd, 1958 - 59, Mary Heuther, 1959 - 61, Mrs. Elizabeth Boyd again, 1961 - 62, Mrs. Jean Anderson, 1962 - 64, Eunice Thiel, 1964 - 65, Betty (Muegge) Beuttenmiller, 1965 --- Jessie Little

S. S. 7 LEADBURY

Records show there was a log school on the present site as early as 1863. In 1876 the site was surveyed, lot fenced and a well dug. Samuel Hannah was paid $80, for the site and deed was registered with Holmstead and McCaughey of Seaforth. In 1907 the school building was sold to Thomas Archibald, remodelled for a dwelling and the present brick building erected by Luxton Hill of Blyth for $2,082.50.

Almost every ratepayer in the section served as trustee at one time or another. Alex Dennis was secretary-treasurer when the township school area was formed.

Thomas Whiteside, according to records of 1863, was the first teacher, followed by John Morrison, Misses Lucinda and Maggie Hannah, 1869 - 1872. Hugh Jamieson and David C. Dorrance, 1875 - 79. For the next 10 years there were two teachers yearly - Mr. Ratcliffe for four years assisted by Miss Forrest and Miss Riley, followed by J. McLeod for two years along with Miss A. Collie and William McKibbon. David Dorrance returned for three more years and was assisted by Miss Boyd, Miss E. Cash and Thomas McFadzean. In 1888 - 89 Miss G. Pollard and J. S. Hogg were teachers. Mr. Hogg then carried on alone for four years, 1890 - 93, with John S. Walsh, teacher in 1894. Christopher then was teacher for 14 years, 1895 - 1908, followed by Miss Amy Sheppard for two years and Miss Bella Taylor for the next two years. Miss Keziah Brown, teacher for two years was followed by Robert H. Hoover, then Miss Ruth A. Hayter for two years. In 1918 there were three short-time teachers - Miss Cora Forbes, Miss M. McKay and Frank Starling followed by Miss Hazel Campbell. Miss Elva Little, teacher for seven years, 1920 - 1927, was followed by Miss Louise Mills up to 1928. Other teachers were Miss Cora Strong, Proctor, Joynt, Mrs. John Kellar, Mrs. L. Bolton, Mr. Litt, Miss Eleanor Weav-

er, Miss Lorraine Smith, McLennan and Gibson Willis, who is completing his 14th year.

Several music instructors were engaged from the 1940 s on.

Teacher's earliest salary was $280 compared to $4900. in 1967 The first caretakers worked for a mere pittance while the caretaker to-day is paid $350. There was talk of closing the school in the mid 1930's but it was voted down. For the past two years extra pupils have been transported from the former No. 12 section.

At the moment the fate of this school is not certain but the rumor is that it may be closed in the near future after serving as an educational and social centre for over a century The present school board for the school area is composed of John Henderson (chairman), Arthur Bolton, Murray Dennis, Harold Pryce and George Rock with Campbell Wey, as secretary-treasurer

S. S. 8 MANLEY

Land on the southeast corner of lot 6, con. 10 was granted by the Canada Company in 1864 on which to build a school. A log school was constructed and the school section was known as S S. No 8, McKillop. First trustees were Mr. Newman and C Dietz Teachers in this school were Patrick O Sullivan, 1864 66, Charles Shutters, 1866 - 67, Patrick Decantelon, 1867 - 73, David Rennie, 1873 - 77, H. Cosgrove, 1877 - 78, and Miss Margaret Moylan taught for almost two years in this first school. This land (and perhaps the old school) was sold in 1881 to C Steurnagel.

So that a school would be in the centre of the school section, plans were made to build another school. In 1879 a square acre of land was purchased at the northeast corner of lot 5, con. 10, for $100. and a one - room school built in its centre. A well was dug the same year. When this school opened Nov. 1, 1881, Miss Moylan was the first teacher for one year and two months.

Succeeding her were Michael Murray, 1882 - 85, Miss Evelyn Givlin 1885 - 87, James Kilduran 1889 - 91, Frank Doherty, 1891 - 93, Miss Katherine Kenny, 1893 - 94; Robert McGee, 1894 - 99, Thomas McQuaid, 1899 - 1901, Miss Stella Simpson, 1901 - 04 Miss Kathleen Foy, 1904 - 05, Miss Colbroly, Miss B O'Connor and P Ronan, parts of 1906 - 07, Miss Pearl Anderson, part of 1907 - 08, Miss Switzer, 1908 - 09, Miss Hanna Dalton, 1909 - 10, Miss Lecta McNahon, 1911 - 12.

In 1911 the school room was divided into two rooms, the first teachers being Misses Lecta McNahon and Pearl Anderson, 1911 - 12, Misses Donnely and Hanna, 1912 - 1913, Misses Donnely and Sparling, 1913 - 1914, Misses H Holland and Sparling, 1914 - 1915, Misses Givlin and Sparling, 1915 - 1916, Misses Givlin and Butterfield, 1916, Misses Givlin and Margaret Phelan, 1916 - 1917, Misses Phelan and Nora McCaughey, 1917, Misses Phelan and Margaret Coyne, part of 1917, Misses Shanahan and Meagher, 1917 - 1918 Misses Shanahan and Mary Murray, 1918 - 1919

At the 1919 annual meeting it was decided to replace the old frame school with a new brick structure In 1920 the new red brick school was opened Trustees were John Murray, John Bennewels and Henry Dietz Miss Rose Dorsey was the first teacher in the new school and taught from 1920 - 1923, Miss Margaret Regan, 1923 - 1924, Miss Helen Delaney 1924 - 1930, Miss Marie Murray, 1930 - 1937, Miss Anna Beer, 1937 - 1941, Miss Francis Annis, 1941 - 1942, Rose Merrill, 1942 - 1944, Miss Mary Stapleton, 1944 - 1945, Miss Agnes L Dwyer, 1945 - 1947, Miss Florence Brown, 1947 - 1949, Miss Margaret Koehler, 1949 - 1952, Miss Laureen Smith, 1952 - 1953 Miss Norma Leeming, 1953 - 1955, Don Meed, 1955 - 1957, Miss Joan McLaughlin, 1957 - 1961, Mrs Terresa B Colville from 1961 to the present time.

A well was drilled in 1937, in 1944 hydro was installed, a pressure system added in 1949 and in 1959 a new oil furnace was installed.

The present trustees are Frank Murray, secretary- treasurer, Alvin Ellingsen, chairman and Norman Beuermann.

Four generations have gone to Manley school and three have returned to teach. They are Mrs. Marie (Murray) Melady, Mrs Joan (McLaughlin) Melady and the present teacher, Mrs Teresa (Eckert) Coville.

When a reunion was held in 1964, two of the three oldest graduates were in attendance. They were George Dieger of Brodhagen, 90, and Alex Mitchell also 90, of Mitchell John Messerschmidt, who was 94, was unable to attend. Others attending were Mrs. Henry Whittison, 80, of London, Mrs Joseph Matthews and Mrs August Hillebrecht. The youngest student on the grounds was six year old Keith Murray

S S. No. 8 pupils have been noted for their musical and public speaking abilities over the years, guided, no doubt, by capable conscientious teachers and music supervisors

S. S. NO 9 McKILLOP

In 1867 S S. 9 was built on lot 14, con. 13. It was a log cabin, 24 feet by 30 feet with no basement and box stove. Section boundaries were - lots 12 to 20 inclusive on con. 12, lots seven and 20 inclusive on con. 13 and from lots one to 19 inclusive, con. 14. The school boasted a dug well and wooden pump.

The first school board was Daniel Southwick, chairman with George Herrin and Thomas Davidson as the other trustees. George Murray was secretary treasurer

The first teacher was Joseph Dix, paid a salary of $240. He was followed by John Campbell in 1869 with a $40. increase Three years later John Ferguson was teacher, followed by Gilbert Smith, Edward Evans and Stanley Anderson.

In 1882 a new frame school was built in spite of opposition at a cost of $1120. A board fence was re-

placed by a wire one. A drilled well was equipped with an iron pump.

Other teachers were William McKay, James Hog, Uriah McFadden assisted by Lydia Campbell, (for a number of years there were over 100 pupils), John G McLeod, William Doig , three graduates who taught at No. 9 were Miss June Brotherson and William and James Rae.

The frame school was rebuilt in 1926, bricked and a basement underneath, equipped with toilets, furnace and lightning rods. The first teacher then was Mrs. Edna (Hackwell) Reid. The school was remodelled in 1959 - walls panelled and ceiling tiled. In 1962 an oil furnace and pressure system were installed.

Mrs James Smith has been teacher since 1957. The school and grounds have been a social centre for the section.

A letter written in 1946 about S. S 9 by 'Old Timer'

' The school-boy spot we ne'er forget, though there we are forgot.

' The school was on a half-acre plot on the south side of con. 14, three miles east of the old north gravel road (now a paved highway, County Road 12) The lot was almost square, being 150 feet from east to west. It was originally a part of the late Thomas Davidson, Sr - a pioneer who settled on con. 12 in 1857 and whose 100 acre farm extended right through from con. 12 to 14 The school section was established in the mid 60 s, as part of the Upper Canada School System. The first school was log, 30 by 40 feet with a gable roof with three double-sash windows on each side. It was built close to the road, facing east with a porch over the entrance An attractive board fence enclosed the grounds with a gate on the side next the road.

'The second school was a well planned frame building, not lacking in architectural beauty, with large

S.S. No. 7 *Leadbury*

S S. No 8 *Manley*

S.S. No. 9 *Dennis*

S.S No 10 *Winthrop*

S.S. No. 12 *Grieves*

S.S. No. 13 *Roxboro*

classrooms, high ceiling, separate cloak rooms, teacher's room and a bell tower. The school was always painted a light gray and occupied the same place on the grounds as the present building (1946) and was opened in 1882. It was used for nearly 50 years. The present brick building replaced the frame school in 1926.

In clearing his land Mr. Davidson left about 12 acres of original bush at the back of his farm (con. 14) which came right up to the school grounds on the south and east. It was the only school in the township to enjoy the benefits and beauty of such a location. In 1946 some of his descendants were still living on con. 12 but the ownership of the old farm passed into other hands but the bush is still there, but has cattle running through it. That bush meant a lot to the pupils - it meant freedom and sheer delight and was abundant with wild flowers in the spring.

The shade trees along the north side were planted in 1884 - 85 when W. C. MacKay was the teacher. Two of the maple trees on either side of the old gate were planted by me (Old Timer) and the two corner maples by Alex Souter and Albert Robinson. The trees along the west side were planted in 1888 when U. J. McFadden was teacher. He was later County Court Judge.

The old woodshed was moved - a landmark was changed - before it was hidden. Several names were carved on it and its old pine door - W. J. C., William John Cameron, Robert Brotherston, but time has pretty well obliterated them. Schoolmates who passed away during 1944-46 were Mrs. Isaac Bolton (Elizabeth Anne Hackwell); Mrs. James Harris (Mary Wiltse) and George Wiltse, formerly of con. 14.

Seeing the above letter in The Huron Expositor, George Delgatty of Gilbert Plains, Manitoba, wrote saying he was raised on the farm across from the school in the 1860 s. His father was Alex Delgatty. He re-

called, along with his brother Bob building a miniature sawmill in the little stream that crossed the road and through the bush by the schoolyard The little mill had a paddle wheel, a pulley belt and a saw that was six inches across. A spring freshet washed it all away Mr. and Mrs Delgatty died in 1912.

S. S. NO. 10 WINTHROP

One-half acre of land (south-west corner) of lot 26, con. 9, McKillop was granted by Robert and Wilhelmenia Hanna to the trustees as long as it was used for educational purposes Dated June 2, 1873, it was signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of Alex Murchie, Winthrop, farmer, storekeeper and past master, L O L. 813

Earl McSpadden discovered, while searching the title in the Registry Office, Goderich, that the land mentioned in the deed is actually in Mrs Robert Beattie's bush. The Registrar of Deeds discovered the error in 1917, but it had never been corrected.

Before the old school house was built there was a small double-boarded frame building on the south-east corner of the farm belonging at present to Mrs Robert Beattie A lady, whose name is unknown to the oldest residents to-day, taught school in this building The same building was used as a store by Mrs Sheridan, later as a chopping mill by Mr. Holden, and finally moved further north and west to be used as a granary by the late William Kinney It was torn down recently by Robt. Beattie

It is not known whether S S. 10 existed as a section or whether the lady in question taught privately. The late Melvin Blanchard attended that early school for a brief period. The old frame school was built on the land mentioned above in 1873. In 1881 it was divided into two rooms with two teachers. Later an addition was built to the south end of the school, forming two cloak rooms with a hallway between.

In 1907 the old school was purchased by James Nicholson for $100, and was moved to lot 27 con. 8 on land now occupied by Vera and Velma Hurst. Finally torn down, the material salvaged was used in building the house on the present property. Some of the first teachers remembered by the older residents were Duncan Campbell, Alex Shaw, Alex Johnston, David Droft of Wingham, Thompson Morrison, John Eddy Johnson, Davy Dorrance, Clarissa Hays and John C Morrison.

After the school was made into two classes, the teachers were Fred Perrin and Maggie Govenlock, John McFadzean and Harriet Campbell, Martha J Hillen and Herbie Lawrence (1894)

Early secretary treasurers were Thomas McElroy, 1895 - 1905 succeeded by Robert Scarlett in 1906. It was then decided to build a new school the next year. A new well was dug in 1896. Ed. Perrie of Listowel had the contract to build the school in 1907 for $2600, material being purchased from Phillip Ament, Brussels. Money to meet the cost was already on hand. The trustees were Robert Scarlett, Thomas Dodds and George McKee and Miss Celina Durand was the first teacher George Eaton received $30 as caretaker in 1908 and the government grant that year was $78.

Mr McKee was secretary-treasurer from 1910 to 1925 followed by John Montgomery in 1926. That same year a fence was built around the grounds with a pipe fence across the front. In 1928 a bell, 20 inches in diameter was purchased for $20, and labor for work around the school was 20 cents an hour. Indoor plumbing was installed in 1934. Several improvements were made in the 1930's and in 1938 shingles for the roof cost $94.62 and Walter Eaton did the job for $23.

A Mr Robb was the first inspector in the new school. Then Dr J M Field from 1911 - 1936, followed by John Hartley, Clinton, for a brief period. In 1938 J H. Kinkead, Goderich, became inspector foll-

owed by G. C Gardiner from 1955 to 1960, then J W Coulter from 1960 to the present time

Miss Helen Britton was the first music teacher from 1938 to 1942, followed by Douglas Gill, then Mrs G. Wendorf in 1944 to 1953 Then Stanley Smith, Catherine Keating, Ron Klinck, Joanne Gilmar, Don Dunbar in 1961, Mary Lou Johnston until the present.

Improvements included a drilled well by Ephriam Haase in 1942 for $210, a $100 piano in 1945, hydro in 1948, a radio and record player in 1949, an oil furnace in 1950, a fire escape in 1959, pressure system and flush toilets in 1960 (Robert Doig), painting in 1962 (Jack Eisler), swings and a slide for playground in 1961

Secretary-treasurers have been Charles Dolmage, Irvin Trewartha, John Campbell, Hiram Blanchard, John Pethick, Theron Bettles, Thomas Pryce and presently, Earl McSpadden

The various teachers have been Edith Campbell, (Mrs George Carter, Londesborough Archie M Campbell, Harvey Buchanan Lizzie Dorrance (Mrs Jim Shannon) around 1901 and Minnie Izzard, Ella J Chesney, 1914 - 17, Laura Ament, Brussels, 1917 - 19, Gladys Shillingslaw, Edna M Jamieson, 1920 - 27, Lyola L Reid (Mrs Jim Turnbull, Ethel 1927 - 29, Tillie Storey, 1929 - 32 at $1,000 per annum, Rosalie Patrick, 1932 - 34, Gordon C Rennie, 1 year at $550 , Vera M Hurst, 1935 - 44, Delphine Brisback Mrs Leslie Dolmage) 1944 - 46, Georgina Campbell (supply), Mrs John (Beula) Keller, 1946 - 50 Estelle Cox, 1950 - 52, J MacDonald, Mrs, Doreen McCreath, 1952 - 54, Margaret Bartja, Monkton, 1954 - 56, James Axtman, 1956 - 59, Doreen (Mrs. Merton) Hackwell, 1958 - 61, Ruth Hibbard (Mrs Robt. J. Campbell) 1961 - 62, Irwin Johnston, 1962 - 66, Mrs. George Powell, 1966 - -

Several former pupils gave their lives in both world wars.

S. S. NO. 12

In 1889 families living on con. 11 considered building a school. A meeting was called on May 6 by Francis Morrison. He, William McIntosh and John G Grieve were appointed interim trustees until an annual meeting was held Dec. 26, 1889, called by Inspector D Robb of Brussels

The section was small as it was formerly included in sections 6, 7 and 10

Three sites were selected but as an agreement could not be reached, arbitrators were hired for $6.00 with Robert Smith representing the ratepayers and Samuel Smith the trustees The site agreed on was lot 27, con. 11.

of the school which was built in 1890 was: lot, $80 ; school building $858. ; furniture and equipment $275 The trustees borrowed $400. to start construction. Provincial and county grants and proceeds from an entertainment paid the balance

From 1890 to 1965 the school was heated by a wood-burning heater and furnace with about 10 cord of 22 inch wood and 20 cord of 14 inch wood used annually. The first well was dug in 1896 at a cost of $41.50 for digging, bricking in and a pump installed. This well never proved too satisfactory, so 47 years later - in 1943 - a well was drilled.

During 1946 - 47 the following renovations were carried out - new, enlarged windows on the south side; entrance was moved to the east end and a bell was placed on the porch, a record player was purchased and a piano replaced an organ. A partition and the furnace were moved to make better use of space available with one room being used as a classroom and the other as a recreation room. New desks and electric lighting were added in 1949.

A strong community spirit existed in No. 12 section and when a job needed to be done at the school

there were always volunteers for the job.

Other early trustees were William Morrison, John Cuthill, Alex Ross and John Morrison (chairman)

Trustees in 1949 50 were William Montgomery (chairman), Oscar Cuthill and Arthur Alexander Mrs. Cuthill was secretary-treasurer T[illegible]elebrate its 100th anniversary in June 1950, a picnic was held at Seaforth Lions Park with 125 in attendance

Names of pupils who attended between 1890 and 1896 included Ed , Will, LuEdna and Albert Morrison, John, Willie, Fred and Beatrice Galbraith, Bella, Florence, Annie and Wellington Hollard, Lizzie O , John, Mary, Charles, Robert, Nettie, Lizzie D , Will, James and Hugh Grieve, Monte and John Pethick, Melvin Dodds, Minnie, Will, Eliot, Bessie and Annie Somerville, Ford Aitcheson, Edie, Dora and Tom Love Charlotte and Annie Mann, Tom, Agnes, John and Maggie Beattie Willie McKay, Annie, Willie and Alice Wyatt Dora, Mabel and Myrtle McClure, Jessie Cuthill, Jeanne Alexander Jennie, Dora, Mary and Florence Staples, Vera Ross Charles and John Riley

Miss Annie Simpson was the first teacher Others included Misses Maudson Hillen, Margaret Scott (Mrs J C Laing) Misses Cunningham, I Kenny Cora White, Annie Somerville A D Hays, A Funkbeiner, Christina Dickson, Mabel Dorrance, Ida M Crozier, Vera Haist, Annie Strong Jean Alexander, William Draper, A J Dinnen, Olive Moon, Mary H Hand, Mrs Claire Eckert, Mrs (Nan Holmes) Charles MacDonald and from 1951 to 1965 - Miss Jessie Little

That year S S 12 became part of the McKillop school area and the school was sold to H and J Boven.

S. S. NO 13 ROXBORO

Thomas E. Hays, John McDowell and John McMillan took an oath of office before John Beattie, J P , May 11, 1889. They were the first trustees of the new school section No. 13 and held their first board meet-

ing at John Walkers, lot 10, con. 3, Dec. 26, 1889. The decision was reached due to overcrowding at S. S No. 2, one and one-quarter miles north and known as Roxboro school.

On April 5, 1890 $75.00 was paid to James Scott and his wife, Isabella, with William G Duff as witness, for three-quarters of an acre of land, part lot 31, to be used as a school site. Mr. Hays was secretary-treasurer. Roderick Grey and John Scott were first auditors. Frame school house built in 1890 by a Mr Querengesser cost $650.

Miss Bella Dickson and a Miss Campbell were the first teachers. Miss Anna Brown taught from 1892 to 1897 - salary $250. - $280. In 1902, $10 was voted to start a school library. Miss Matilda Fowler taught from 1904 - 1917 - salary $130. to $600. New fence erected and grant to McKillop school fair in 1918. Asphalt shingles put on outside in 1925 and a painter was paid 40 cents an hour to paint exterior

Miss Vera Haist, Mrs. Joseph Grummett and Mrs. Russell Worden (Staffa) are believed to be the only former teachers living in the area.

School closed in 1941 because of lack of pupils Re-opened in 1954. Trustees were Sam Scott, Peter McCowan, John Powell, Jr., Francis Coleman, Jr., Harold Agar and James M Scott.

In January, 1965, by government decree, the school was placed under jurisdiction of a township board and closed in June. In July, 1965 purchased by Sam Scott - grandson of original owner of land.

Others who taught at No. 13 were Miss Nellie McMillan, Robert A Aitcheson, Miss Isabel Aitcheson, Miss Agnes D Hays, Miss Mae M Ivor, Miss Dorothy Hutchison, Frank Coates, William McNay, Miss Stella Richmond, Miss Mae Shortreed. (School closed). Fifteen years later Mrs. Robert Simpson, when school reopened, followed by Mrs. Mary Heuther, Mrs. John McLlwain and Miss Janet Tyndall.

There were several music supervisors. The last school board members were. Francis Coleman, James M. Scott and W J McDowell (secretary-treasurer). Since then pupils from this section were transported to S. S. 4

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Sometimes I think we over-praise
The glories of the good old days .
In good old days strong men were able
To cut the grain with scythe and cradle.
And then there came a fancy reaper
That cut the grain a great deal cheaper.
Then men just worked to beat the band
To tie the bundles up by hand.
And then there came that binder thing
That tied the bundles up with string.
Then came the job that really hurt -
We threshed the grain midst dust and dirt
Until we got the grain combine
That did not use a bit of twine
It did not seem to change the yield
But threshed the grain out in the field.
The tallow light was not too bright
And then we had the candle light.
And candle light, as we have seen
Was followed by the kerosene.
And then - we had electric light
So men could work both day and night.
I guess we're too close up to see
How good the new times really be!

by "Sodbuster".

Farms and Families

SCOTT POULTRY FARMS and
THE INTERNATIONAL PLOWING MATCH

James M Scott is the founder of the Scott Poultry Farms which is to-day one of the larger poultry establishments in the Province of Ontario. In the fall of 1920 he took over the farm flock of 40 Barred Rock hens - this was at the time when early winter eggs were unthought of, but through the use of fresh meat scraps, careful feeding, good management and the extension of daylight by artificial lighting, his small flock gave exceptionally high production throughout the years. This gave him encouragement to continue and was the foundation of to-days high enterprise - one of the larger poultry establishments in Ontario.

The next year his poultry plant had increased to 50 pullets housed in the stable. Along with a 60-egg incubator, a second-hand brooder house (purchased for $5.00) and a small coal-burning brooder stove was the second step.

Year by year by wise planning and shrewd business practises, his business grew by leaps and bounds until to-day his poultry business occupies 412 acres in one block and includes four sets of farm buildings equipped with the most modern poultry equipment available. Incubators with a capacity for hatching more than

32,000 chicks each week, are in use in 1967 quite an expansion in 45 years

For the past two years son Bill has been assisting his father in the management of the Scott Poultry Farms Ltd now associated with Kumber Chick Inc., Niles, California

The outstanding event in Seaforth and area in 1966 was the International Plowing Match, Oct 11 - 14, on the Scott Poultry Farms adjacent to the northwest corner of the town in McKillop Township While more than 50,000 people paid admission to what could have been a record event, almost continuous rain created serious problems and cut down attendance

As early as 1961 negotiations started in an effort to bring the event to Huron County in the near future with the Ontario Plowman's Association to choose the best site possible Scott Farms was selected as the logical site

When it became definite that the match was to be held in the Seaforth area the officials to be in charge were named. To head the local committee were Gordon McGavin, a past O P A president and Larry Snider, a business man of Exeter, as co-chairman. (The last provincial match held in Huron County was in 1949 at Port Albert - known as the Victory Match) Other chairmen included Donald McKenzie of Ashfield (1967 Warden), W D Stephenson, Seaforth and Bill Hanly treasurer, Goderich.

The planning job was immense but with the co operation of all concerned the event lined up beautifully An enjoyable prelude to the match was the sod-turning ceremony at the site on June 11, 1965, with the Hon. C S MacNaughton, then Minister of Highways and the Hon. William Stewart, Minister of Agriculture, turning the first sod using a plow that had been used on the same farm a century earlier. Weatherwise it was a delightful day with a good crowd on hand. Everything pointed

to a successful match to be held at the same site four months later.

The week end prior to the match the location looked magnificent - lush grass could never have been greener nor skies bluer Colorful buildings, tents and flags added to the picture but, the afternoon before it was to open, skies became dark and rain began to fall. All the work and planning that had gone into making it one of the largest International Matches ever held was about to be almost washed out.

In spite of all the difficulties, those in charge carried bravely on and all plowing events and most of the other events except the daily parade, went on as scheduled. To make up for the weather the Match was extended one day - rain and more rain fell.

However, the International was successful financially. Huron and all concerned did their best.

A local girl, Amy Stewart, daughter of Warden Kenneth Stewart, was declared Queen of the Furrow.

Mayor of the Tented City was James M Scott, owner and operator of Scott Poultry Farms, while son Bill was deputy mayor. Close to 1000 acres were in use or optioned for the event.

E A. Lashley, secretary-manager of the O. P. A. reported at the annual meeting that the site had been perfect, administration the very best - the weatherman being the only one who did not co-operate.

THE EVANS FAMILY

The Evans family were among the first to settle in McKillop Township. Fortunately they had acquired what was then considered a good education, and were able to play an active part in the development of the community.

There were two men, Joseph and William, and two sisters. One sister married a Dorsey and moved

away, the other married Thomas Tully and lived on the farm now occupied by Matthew Murray Of a family of five sons and four daughters, only one son married and went to live in North Dakota. Of the daughters who married, none had families

Joseph Evans raised a family of five sons and two daughters Several went to the United States to live James Evans family were all girls. James and his father took active parts in township affairs - council and county council, and served as Justices of the Peace for many years and also were members of the McKillop Fire Insurance Company.

Joseph Evans and Robert Turnbull were township auditors in 1884 and Solomon J. Shannon, treasurer.

THE CAMPBELL FARM

In 1839 the Canada Company took over from the Crown a large tract of land in the Township of McKillop. About fifteen years later the land was taken up by an enterprising Irishman from County Armagh, Ireland. His name was Robert Campbell, grandfather of Robert W Campbell. He was 34 when he began farming Previously he had hauled logs from Toronto to Oshawa for McLaughlin Wagon Works. He married Ann Jane (McAdam) Campbell, also of Armagh, Ireland. His brother John had settled on the next farm. Robert and Ann had four children - Margaret Ann, James Henry, Mary Jane and Robert Alexander The first log house was built west of the present garage It consisted of one large livingroom, 2 adjacent bedrooms and one large attic room upstairs. The milk house was a lean to at the end. The first barn was built on the bank of the river - no stone foundation. The present house was built in 1876 - William Johnston being mason and plasterer. Colin and Sinclair Gordon grained woodwork and inside painting. The doors and window sills are of stone brought by sleigh

from Owen Sound. For years across the kitchen ceiling were two rows of large hooks put there when the house was built - still there in 1952. From them hung hams and shoulders of pork to be cured. The first cow-stable was converted into a garage. The present barn was built in 1860 and the flag stones came from Shine's stone quarry in Grey County. William Summers was the stone mason and George McGonigle was framer.

The story is told that McGonigle's son, Robert, stood on his head on one of the ventillators when barn was finished. The two captains were Thomas Stephens (Sr.) Queen's Hotel and a Mr. Ewan.

The Campbells discarded coal oil lamps and lanterns for Delco in 1927 and for hydro in 1939.

Robert Campbell, the first, died in 1907, his wife had died in 1904, the farm going from the original owner to the present owner, who took over in 1924 and married the former Lillie Gordon in 1926.

Maple syrup has been made on the farm since the early days. Old spiles were eight inches long, driven into the trees with a wooden mallet. In those days the women spun their own yarn and a spinning wheel was a fixture. They also made their own candles and the children made colored candles for Christmas.

The old drag saw used was made in Seaforth's first foundry. Oak trees standing 60 feet high were started in flower pots. A milk stand was a common sight at farm gates where cans of milk were set to be picked up for the cheese factory. Later farmers delivered their own milk.

An overflowing well was drilled in 1931. The house almost burned down in the 1900's caused by a chimney spark. The ringing of the farm bell summoned help. William Smith, who was doing a decorating job there, fainted and had to be carried down from the verandah. Taxes in 1884 were $28.90 on $3,880 assessment while in 1951 taxes were $257 on an assessment of $7700.

THORNTON HALL FARM

Thornton Hall Farm, con. 1, McKillop, on the north side of No. 8 highway, is one and one-quarter miles west of Seaforth - just beyond the Harpurhey limits.

Adolphine Thornton, wife of Ludwig Meyer, who came to Canada as a pioneer bride in 1872 named the place after her father, John Thornton, a British Consul in the City of Hamburg, Germany Mr. and Mrs Meyer lived there many years

Ludwig and three brothers first came to Canada in 1839 and each took up 100 acres near Harpurhey. After three years there, Ludwig returned to Germany, married Miss Thornton and settled on the bush farm.

A spacious house was built with considerable time and money used to make it and keep it beautiful indoors and out. The building on the east side of the drive-shed was for the farm labourer and his family. A summer house was used as a playhouse for their seven children.

For 35 years Mr Meyer was division court clerk with an office in Seaforth, 1872 - 1886 Dying at 77 he had outlived the deaths of four county judges and had been noted for his poor writing.

His wife used to sit on a large fieldstone near their home watching for her husband's homecoming. After her death, Ludwig had this large boulder placed on the Meyer plot to mark her grave in Harpurhey Cemetery where it can be seen to this day

Archibald D Scott, son of pioneer James Scott, Roxboro, purchased the farm in 1891, the year he married Annie E Ross, daughter of Finlay Ross, McKillop. His son, James F assisted him until Mr. and Mrs Scott retired to Seaforth in 1927 Andrew Davidson purchased the farm in 1965 and Mr. and Mrs J. F Scott retired to Seaforth.

THE FRANK CASE FARM

Frank Case formerly lived in Tuckersmith but bought lot 21, Huron Road Survey, McKillop He was a drover and owned 600 acres in the vicinity The farm on which he made his home had never been plowed until it was turned over into a Golf Course in 1933. A Golf Holding Corporation was formed and purchased the farm. By June, 1934, it was in operation at a cost of $3,220 80 being spent on construction of the course A tennis court was opened in 1938

Timber had been cut off early and the stumps had been allowed to rot away The farm was used for pasture and gravel was hauled from a pit across the river behind the house

The first Case house was frame The one on the property now is a commodious brick home built in 1879 The foundation and brick work cost $1200. One large stone gray sandstone, constitutes the four corners of the foundation. The stone was blasted with dynamite to break it and four pieces were trimmed and finished to make the corner stones William Copp was the brick-layer and the brick was made at Bowden's brickyard on the farm now owned by Scott Cluff in Egmondville The spot from which the clay was taken was called The Hollow by the Egmondville boys

Mr Case built the road fence along the front of the farm with lumber The posts were six feet apart and were delivered by Tom Downey from Pony Mills in McKillop, east of Walton, for five cents each. The lumber was of the very best and cost $4 50 per 1000 board feet

The maple grove on the farm was famous for picnics and Mr Case cleared as much as $1,000. a year from this source The Case swimming-hole was known far and wide and the Case Creek (now Silver Creek) was a fisherman's paradise for trout. The Case gravel and sand pit supplied building material for half the Town of

Seaforth and surrounding countryside. The pavements of Seaforth were built of this material

The Cases had a pair of Shetland ponies from Scotland, which were an enjoyment for children of the area Mr Case died in 1891 and his wife, who kept a beautiful garden of plants and shrubs, died about 1917.

The Golf Club ceased operations about 1943 and the Case house was vacant for a few years Brad Smith bought the house and tennis court about 1951. Frank Kling owns the lot between the driveway and the hospital fence and back even with the back of the Smith lot. Dale Nixon owns the rest of the farm, 85 or 90 acres

[illegible]

[illegible] the business activity that existed at Winthrop at that time. According to the 1890 Winthrop on the Sagamore and Shore [illegible] a population of [illegible] [illegible] and has about [illegible] stores, [illegible] and [illegible] churches and schools.

Business Through the Years

WINTHROP CHEESE AND BUTTER FACTORY

December 13, 1872 John C Morrison proposes going into the cheese business at Winthrop Timber is on the ground for a new factory and he has engaged an experienced cheesemaker, William Hill The building is to be in the shape of a T The main building with the end towards the road is to be 48 by 28 feet, with weighing and vat room underneath, 26 by 28 feet A press room, 24 by 16 feet is to be built to the west side and an engine room 20 by 16 feet, is to be on the east side Excellent spring water is available Quite a large number of cows have already been guaranteed to supply milk

It was open from May 5 to October 11, 1873 H. Iyerman was the largest contributor and received $289 92 for the season

Cheese made by Hill and Morrison in 1875 won first prize at Central Fair, Guelph. In 1880 cheese sold for 11 cents a pound and butter 25 cents The next year's cheese sold for one-half cent a pound more and patrons received nine cents a gallon for milk.

In 1882 the factory was operated by James Kerr, Finlay Ross and Francis Morrison That summer the factory received 642, 879 pounds of milk and made 60, 660 pounds of cheese (10 41 pounds milk made one

pound of cheese) In 1886 the company in charge was: president, Alex Kerr directors Finlay Hope and Stephen Godkin F C Morrison was secretary-treasurer Improvements totalled $234 with vats and presses to be added

In Nov 1887 the factory was burned to the ground Lost were 20 cheeses all machinery and utensils Insurance was $900 By the following March all material was on hand ready for a new factory and plans were to be in operation May 14 1888

In Oct 1840 Winthrop cheese won a total of $30 in first prizes at Western Fair London for the three best pale cheeses,also a silver medal for best cheese in any class shown Geo H Barr was cheesemaker

In 1842 farmers milk was to go to John Hannah for butter making He proposed to pay monthly for all milk delivered at factory at six cents per 10 pounds for first four months and seven cents per 10 pounds for next two months It takes 10 or more pounds of milk to make one pound of butter At this rate farmers received 18 and 21 cents for each pound of butter made and no work making it Mr Hannah installed a centrifugal machine to separate cream from milk The sweet skim milk went back to the farmers and cream was taken to Seaforth Creamery to be made into butter Mr Hannah paid for milk hauling

Some felt they should be paid according to butter fat content so it was agreed that those whose milk had four per cent butter fat were to receive one-third more money The separator was capable of separating cream from 3000 pounds of milk in an hour Twenty-five pounds of cream made 10 pounds of butter at a temperature of 58 degrees in 3 minutes

Travelling dairies were held occasionally A good buttermaker would travel from factory to factory to demonstrate to the public milk testing and butter making

In 1894 it was reported that Mr Hannah was to

make an assignment. He sold his livestock but not his farm or factory at that time

Cheesemaking resumed in 18?5 instead of butter with A Govenlock, Robert Campbell and Francis Morrison as directors In June of that year farmers agreed that dairying was as profitable as raising grain

In January 1897 cheese sold for 10 cents a pound and there was $2000 to be distributed among some 70 patrons and milk haulers Milk was 73 cents per 100 pounds better than oats at 18 cents a bushel In May 1897 there were nine milk routes That year 55[illegible]2 tons of cheese were manufactured, valued at $9000 Frank Millson was cheesemaker for some time

In March 1904 factory was sold to Calder and Scarlett with patrons having charge of selling the butter and apportioning proceeds Butter output in 1903 was valued at $8200

In 1904 a hall was added to the creamery which served for meetings and entertainment - called Calder's Hall Church services were held there while the new Cavan Church was being built in Winthrop

At the annual meeting, March 1907, it was shown that the factory did $?5 000 worth of business in six months the previous year Mr Calder installed a new churn and buttermaker In 1907 [illegible]5 600 pounds of butter were made and he installed government standard refrigerator In 1908 43 tons of butter were made valued at $19 000 and there were 225 patrons Highest price was 28 cents and lowest [illegible]1 1 2 The year 1909 was one of the biggest years in its history 59 ?4 tons of butter made, valued at $2? [illegible]00 There were 250 patrons and butter sold at ?0 1 2 cents a pound Output had increased fourfold in five years

Frank Millson who at one time was buttermaker and also operated a store in Winthrop died in 9.1

In 1912 [illegible].0 tons of butter were made valued at $60 000 and sold at 30 cents a pound Value of butter made in 1913 was $52,472 selling at 24 1/2 cents a

pound Robert Scarlett was re elected president and A A Cuthill secretary-treasurer A G Calder agreed to make butter for 3 4 cents a pound labour

In April 9 4 the factory was completely destroyed by fire All contents and two milk wagons nearby were lost but manufactured stock had all been sold r gin of fire was unknown It was one of the best equipped factories in the county

Although a little late in starting operations, the plant was ready and operated five months in 9,5 with 5 tons of butter made valued at $32,000

Clarence Parker, a newphew of Mr Calder, was buttermaker n ,912 ,3 He now lives in Woodstock

Mr Parker believes that Mr Calder purchased the factory in the late 1890 s or early 1900 s and apparently he was a cheese and buttermaker from childhood, having operated in various other centres Mr Parker also states that in the early days it was a stock company plant owned by farmers in the community Mr Calder moved to Hickson in 1918 where he died in 1940 and his wife died in the mid 1940 s The Calder home at Winthrop was bought by Mr and Mrs George Eaton, who now live in Seaforth Mr Parker also recalls that McKillop council met in the old curing room of the factory and T M Govenlock, who operated a tile yard at Winthrop, was reeve when he worked there Mr Parker has pleasant recollections of his years at Winthrop and recalls playing football he and Tommy Govenlock played right wing

The L O L 813 bought the building in May, 1926 and have held their meetings there ever since It is possible the building was unused from 1917 or 18 until then

THE McKILLOP MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

In 1907 there were rumors that telephone lines

to serve the population in the township were to become a reality In March 1908 canvassing for telephone installations was carried out with a meeting called to form a company and lay plans to build a line An interim committee was set up with Robert Scarlett, president; John McGavin, vice-president and James Kerr, secretary Con Eckert and Mike Broderick, Seaforth, addressed the meeting and extolled the benefits of the wonder of the age

Canvassers named were Wm McGavin, James Smith, Hugh Alexander, Charles Little, George McKee, John M Govenlock, Adam Dickson, James Kerr and Geo D C Hearn

The canvass was fairly successful but they decided to delay action until a scheme for an extended line to Walton, Constance and an area south of Seaforth, was investigated

In April a meeting was planned to form a company known as the McKillop Rural Telephone Company A canvass for stock was planned for a line from Seaforth to Walton with spur lines A charter was to be applied for Provisional directors named were: Robert Scarlett, James Kerr, I V Fear, Chas Little, John Cuthill, Geo. Hearn and Robert Smith

Estimated cost to construct a line and install telephones along the proposed route was $1800. Other areas were becoming interested.

May 8, 1908, the three commissioners appointed to attend to the building of a line of the McKillop Municipal System and purchase of supplies met at A. A Cuthill's store Winthrop,

Moved by John Dodds, seconded by Geo. Hearn that J M Govenlock be secretary Carried,

Moved by John Dodds and seconded by J M. Govenlock that George Hearn be president. Carried.

Moved by George Hearn and seconded by J M Govenlock that John Dodds be treasurer Carried.

Geo. D C Hearn, Secretary

Constitution of McKillop Telephone System - reads in part -

"This system shall be known as the McKillop Telephone System with the central office to be in Winthrop

The Board of Commissioners shall consist of three members elected by the initiating subscribers among themselves and shall hold office for one year, until the annual meeting a president, a secretary and a treasurer

The commission in charge of the line is to keep it in repair and have power to employ an expert when ever necessary and submit a report at each annual meeting

Initial subscribers shall pay equally and annually for a period of 10 years with the rate levied on them by the McKillop council The system is not to be extended until there shall be at least two subscribers to each and every mile of extension asked for

Any person except a subscriber or his family shall pay the sum of 5 cents for each and every message to any part of the Line, five minutes being allowed for the transmission of each message, to be paid to the treasurer at the end of each month, or pay a fine of $1 00

The committee appointed to draft the constitution was James Kerr Robert Smith and Alex Cuthill

In May 1908 under a new act passed by the Ontario Legislature council issued debentures to cover cost of instruct on and installation. To meet interest and sinking fund on debentures users of telephones will be equally assessed with the cost spread over a 10 year per od Already 18 telephones were guaranteed on a 12 mile line Work on the line was to commence at once with arrangements left to J M Govenlock, George Hearn and John Dodds

May 18 Meeting at J M Govenlocks, it was moved by John Dodds and seconded by George Hearn, that Robert Smith, Jr , was to receive $200. for the

contract of putting up the telephone line, he to do all the work and make a satisfactory job. Carried.

Then - "I, Robert Smith, Jr., agree to build the line and I do all the work and guarantee to give a satisfactory job or no pay Signed Robert Smith.

Robert Smith built the line which was completed in July 1908 and connections were made with Seaforth.

The first message over the new line was made by Thomas A Beattie to his wife at John G Grieve's home There were 21 subscribers between Seaforth and Winthrop and it is said the first telephone was installed in the Robert Smith home.

The early subscribers included: T A Beattie, Robt. Beattie, Robert Smith, Sr , Hugh Alexander, John Dodds, John Cuthill, Robert Smith, Jr., John G Grieve, Alex Cuthill, John M Govenlock, Andrew Calder, Robert Scarlett, Fred Galbraith, Robert Campbell, James Kerr, James Dorrance, George Hearn, Rev D Carswell, Joseph Dorrance, Andrew Henderson and Robert Govenlock.

Aug. 10, 1908 - Meeting at Calder's Hall It was agreed that the sum of 10 cents be charged for non-subscribers talking over the line, this to be placed in the rates The same commissioners were again named and Robert Smith was to be paid 25 cents per hour for repairing the line when needed and the system was to keep all phones in repair Robert Smith built a 13 mile line and installed 21 phones for $200 Supplies totalled $146! 52

In 1909 the line was extended east along con. 6-7 with talk of extending it to Walton and Constance A telephone network was foreseen

A total of 24 miles of line was built and 40 phones installed costing $459 for telephones and $67 for the extension.

In July of that year the McKillop Telephone System was granted permission to issue a $3, 677 debenture for continuing constructions in the township and

extending to points in Grey Morris and Hullett.

In 1910 93 phones were installed and 35 more miles of line were constructed. Mr Miller and Mr Scott Hawthorne were also building lines. Commissioners were James Kerr, J Cuthill and J M Govenlock. One hundred dollars was paid back to early subscribers. Balance in treasury in Jan. 1915 was $400.

Commissioners were Govenlock, Hearn, James Snell and Dr. Charles McGregor.

In March 1916, a heavy sleet storm raised havoc to the line running out the north from the town limits to Robert Grieve's with every pole broken in the mile stretch and the wire was in a tangled mess. Thoughts were then given to enclose wires in cables.

Commissioners in 1921 were Charles McGregor, W R Snell and J M Govenlock. In 1922 Matt Armstrong was president, John Eckert, Treasurer and J M Govenlock secretary.

In December 1934 there were 184 miles of poles, 513 miles of single wire and 408 telephones. Commissioners were Matt Armstrong, A A Cuthill and J M Eckert.

In 1940 J M Eckert was president and two years later was again treasurer.

In 1947 James B Hogg was replaced by Frank Kirkby as commissioner.

The late John Kellar served as linesman for many years. Ross Mardie, who was secretary for many years was replaced in 1946 by J M Eckert who held the position until 1962 - 38 years.

Commissioners in 1950 were M. Armstrong, G McGavin and George R Campbell and in 1951 M Armstrong was re elected chairman - a member for 20 years. He died in Feb 1955 at 90 years.

That year the work of rebuilding the line north of Seaforth began - 60 poles were removed from roadsides and circuits were split in preparation for the change to dial. Geo. R Campbell became president and the change

to dial was estimated to cost $4300

The first dial telephone was installed in the Willis Van Egmond home, No 4 highway, Hullett township. The McKillop system now operates in Hullett, Grey, Morris Goderich townships having dropped Tuckersmith in July 1966

In 1959 the underground system was extended and it was said that talking too much on the lines was spoiling the service for others

The change to dial was made complete on Nov 14, 1965, George R Campbell was chairman in 1965, Harry Snell in 1966 and Wm J Leeming in 1967 The commissioners in 1967 are the same, James F Keys is secretary treasurer and George Hibbert, lineman.

Following studies of proposals to amalgamate with the Blyth and Brussels telephone systems in the formation of a new company which the commission had been carrying on for some months, subscribers, at a special meeting on June 12, 1967 at Winthrop, rejected the suggestion and approved an offer of Bell Telephone Company to purchase the system for $80,000 effective December 31, 1967.

WINTHROP AND THE WEE STORE

The Winthrop store has been a service in the area for over 100 years - not the same store but in practically the same location Alex Murchie, the first owner, came to Canada with his wife and two small daughters in 1858 and constructed a dwelling a few miles north of Seaforth at a corner of the north gravel road, called Ballabay or Bailey Bay He fenced some land, put a roof on his house and called it home Several years later he stocked it with merchandise to trade with the increasing number of pioneer farmers, then opened a post office and the spot was called Winthrop

About 1887 work began to drain the useless bog swamp that lay around the area More settlers began to come in the wee store did quite a business as did

the saw and grist mill, two blacksmith shops, two taverns (one a hotel), a brick yard, and a cheese and butter factory with a large hog pen nearby

Times were good at Winthrop but Mr Murchie died. His wife continued with the business and had the post office fitted with boxes for the mail. A daughter married and moved to Walton. Mrs Murchie died Dec 31, 1913. Her daughter Katie, who had helped her, moved to Seaforth

John Montgomery then bought the business and operated it until 1951 With his family grown and away the Montgomerys sold to Austin Dolmage By then the country round about was well settled, the community weakened the bustling mills became quiet, the blacksmith shop vacant, sons and daughters moved to greener fields and Winthrop realized its new identity, as just a corner with a church, a school, a store, a few houses and one last mill

Then - a sign - For Sale - The Wee Store , size 18 by 27 feet. Can be torn down or moved - signed Austin Dolmage He was the third and last owner in almost 100 years Less than a year later he built another store in its place directly behind where it had stood so long, but had been torn down. The next owner of the new store was Stanley M Gillies, and Mr Dolmage bought the residence of the late R K McFarlane in the village

Lloyd McCluskie took over the business in 1958, erected a large addition and made several other improvements He still operates the store in 1967

Alex A Cuthill at one time also built a store in Winthrop, later operated by Kenneth Bennett William Bullard and his son Jack operated a blacksmith shop. Fred Horne owned a wagon shop and a Mr Horney had a buggy factory east of the corner and a hotel stood at the northeast corner In 1962 the Winthrop Mill , which had been owned by Ephriam Haase, was sold to Dolmage Milling Company

The Govenlock Mills - June 3, 1875 - fire destroyed the saw mill owned by John Govenlock and operated by Andrew Govenlock. It had cost $5000. to build and $5000 worth of lumber was also lost. It was rebuilt and in 1880 had a windmill installed over his well for his saw and grist mill. A news item in March 1889 stated that around Andrew Govenlock's saw mill, grist mill and general store, Winthrop was booming. Robert Govenlock died in 1920, he had lived in McKillop 60 years. Besides being an overseer of the businesses, he was an elder in Winthrop Church for 45 years and active in Sunday School work.

The village also boasts a four-acre recreation field.

A bright spot in the village is the modern new township municipal building built in 1965 costing around $10,000. Bernard Ten Pas and Sons, Brussels, was the contractor. On Friday, Nov. 26, 1965, the Hon. C. S. MacNaughton, then Minister of Highways, officially opened the building. Several other dignitaries were in attendance.

THE McKILLOP MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

This company originated at a meeting of interested persons held in the Commercial Hotel on Wednesday, March 1, 1876. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the formation of a farmer's fire insurance company. When the company was formed the above name was chosen. Later the same month at a meeting more than the amount of insurance required for organization was secured. The directors were elected on April 3, five from each of the townships of McKillop, Tuckersmith and Hullett, then a few days later the following officers were elected: president, G. E. Cresswell, vice president, W. J. Shannon, secretary-treasurer, M. Y. McLean. The first agents appointed were David Sproat, Robert McMillan and Thomas Neilands. McKillop direc-

tors were: Robert Govenlock, T E Hays, John Thompson, James Scott, W J Shannon, Tuckersmith, G E Cresswell, James Landesborough, Robert Elgie, F Fowler Sr James McDonald, Hullett, John McMillan, GeorgeWatt, Thomas Moon Robert McMichael, T Neilands (replaced by John Britton)

In a short time applications for insurance totalled $160,000 In four months this had doubled with 342 members and no losses by fire Nine months later the first fire loss was given as $1.5

For some time five directors, all from one township, retired annually

The second president was W J Shannon followed by John McMillan of Hullett Then James Kerr of McKillop was president for four years

The use of steam operated threshers caused the company great concern by 1884 The farmer who was having threshing done was obliged to have a ladder long enough to reach at least two feet above the barn eaves during the whole time threshing was in progress Membership fee was reduced from $1 50 to $1 00 and livestock belonging to the insured was to be rated as contents of a building struck by lightning

T F Hays was president in 1885 and membership reached 650 In 1892 he was succeeded by D. Ross, Stanley Township who died in 1895 Directors were now from Stanley Hibbert and Goderich townships as well George Watt was then president for three years followed by T B McLean, Kippen from 1898 to 1916 (18 years), James Connolly of Goderich township was the next president until 1927 at least perhaps longer Robert Archibald was president in the 1950's and John L Malone in the 1960's

The 1967 officers are president Wm R Pepper, Brucefield, Wm S Alexander, R R #2, Walton, Mrs Keith Sharp, R R #2, Seaforth is secretary-treasurer From 1876 to 1958 79 years - there were only five secretary-treasurers They were: M Y McLean,

two years, W J Shannon, 1878 - 1900, T E. Hays, 1901 - 1923, D F McGregor, 1924 - 1932, M A Reid, 1933 1958 W E Southgate, 1958 - 1966; Mrs Keith Sharp is the present secretary-treasurer

FRANK KLING, LIMITED

Since pioneer times a source of gravel for district buildings and roads and stone and sand deposits have come from lot 22, con 2, McKillop. This deposit has gained new importance with the introduction of modern machinery. During the many years in which the farm has produced gravel, the total produced has not equalled the production of the past few years.

Until power-driven equipment was introduced, gravel to a great extent was shovelled by hand onto horse-drawn wagons. To day multi wheeled trucks carry loads equal to 25 of the wagons in use 30 years ago. Crushing and loading gravel used to be dangerous and backbreaking and accidents were frequent. A recent owner George Aberhart died in 948 from a pit accident.

Now all material is handled mechanically. Large shovels stationed in the pit load trucks which carry the stone to a hopper at the crusher site. Here fine material drops through a grating onto a moving belt and into a secondary crusher. Large stones go first to a primary crusher and broken pieces are fed onto a belt and into a second crusher. From here the material is carried by conveyor to a washing process, on the way being screened and separated into sand and stones of various sizes. After washing the material is again carried to bins for direct loading into trucks. Unwashed crushed stone is taken off the conveyor at an earlier stage and loaded directly into separate bins.

The crushing and washing process is continuous and produces finished stone at the rate of a ton a minute. This washing process requires a steady supply of water

which is supplied from a 10-inch well drilled in 1961 by W D Hopper and Sons, and supplies 300 gallons a minute

Stone, sand and gravel are delivered by trucks of varying capacities which are loaded by gravity from storage hoppers As loaded trucks leave they are weighed on platform scales that automatically print the load s weight. Scales, 50 feet in length weigh loads up to 50 tons Aggregates from the Kling pits are used in increasing quantities for concrete requirements and for asphalt road construction over a wide area.

The site of the present pit was cleared as a farm by Robert Turnbull who came to McKillop from Scotland in 1850 Remembering his native community he called his new home Dunniplace a name which it carried for many years Following his death the farm continued in the Turnbull family until the death of his son, George father of Miss Mabel Turnbull, Seaforth) It was sold in the early 1920 s to George Aberhart and purchased in 1969 by Frank Kling from Henry Lawrence

While deposits on the property were always regarded as a source of gravel and sand, the pits were not operated commercially to any extent before the turn of the century When selling gravel George Turnbull stated, It is like selling your farm by the load '.

Organizations

THE SEAFORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

As this is a better than average rural area not just McKillop, but Tuckersmith, Hullett, Hibbert and Stanley townships as well, it would be a mistake not to include the Seaforth Agricultural Society Located and operated in McKillop township since 1900, the society has been held in three different locations with three different names When first organized and held in Harpurhey it was known as the Harpurhey Agriculture Society The second location in 1861 was in Tuckersmith township at what is now the town s west end where the public school and Neil Bell's Shell Service Station are and the society was known as the Tuckersmith Branch Agriculture Society

(By early regulations of the Department of Agriculture, the society was to assume the name of its location - this regulation being later removed)

The conditions at the second location became inadequate and also because of the burning under mysterious circumstances of the large exhibits building and poultry accommodation in 1898, another location was sought. Records show that because of this loss no fair was held in 1899

In the meantime the Seaforth Turf Association had been operating a half-mile race track on the

second field back from the north road on Thomas Lap she s farm now owned by Gordon Elliott In 1899 this assoc at on bought land from Ed Coleman and built a race track where t is today This is the fourth track n the Seaforth area two earl er ones being at the west end When the track and land around it was put up for a ction in 1900 the Agricultural Society purchased it To absor the $ mortgage held by George McCartney the town of Seaforth and the townships of McKillop and Tuckersmith each contributed $100 and Thomas Scott made up the $ balance

Land was also pur hased from William Duggan on wh ch was built the an ual exhibition hall That parcel of land on wh ch the Seaforth community centre stands was transferred to the Town of Seaforth with an agreement that the society have free use of Centre for spec fied periods The livestock accommodations on the grounds are excellent

In connection with the society s 110th anniversary n 1955 a new ent platform speakers and judges stand complete with pylon and pla e were built The unveiling cerem onies were carried out by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario Hon s Breithaupt

Although faced with financial problems at times due m ainly to bad weather conditions the fair has continued to grow and has been of service as an agricultural showplace for the com unity and large area surrounding it for a total of 92 years - surely an enviable record

In 1954 the fair was granted a Class B status, being the only one in Huron County to obtain such a rating and since that time has had an organized Junior Fair working within its organization Huron s Oldest and Only Class B Fair Where Juniors Reign Supreme

McKILLOP SCHOOL FAIR

In the spring of 1915 an invitation was sent to the school boards of the southern portion of McKillop town-

ship, asking the trustees to meet at S S No. 4 to discuss the formation of a school fair. Representing the various schools were: U S S. No. 1 - John Lane, John Balge, No. 13 - Joseph Scott, Duncan McCowan; No. 2 - William McClure, Alfred Brown, No. 10 - George McGee, John Shannon, No. 6 - Thomas Bolton, Sam Smith, No. 8 - George F. Benneweis, John Murray, Beechwood No. 3 - Thomas Moylan, Ed. Horan, St. Columban - P. V. McGrath, James Sullivan, No. 4 - William Beattie, Robert Gibson.

A decision was made to hold a school fair in September at No. 4 school with William Beattie as president and Foster Fowler as secretary-treasurer.

The event was sponsored by Dr. Field, school inspector, and assisted greatly. "What a success those fairs were," quotes Mr. Fowler. The many classes of livestock, poultry, vegetables, fruit, flowers and school work were full. The Seaforth band led the parade of school children, assisted by Roy Fletcher as "Jiggs" and Oliver Elliott as "Maggie" as entertainers. There never was a dull moment.

Prizes were donated by every merchant of Seaforth, Dublin, Brodhagen, Beechwood and St. Columban.

The school fair was discontinued in 1918 to be started again with many new features in 1948 and held at No. 6. For that year the officers were: - president - Ed. Godkin, secretary-treasurer, Foster Fowler. School representatives were: No. 1 - John E. Murray, teacher, Reta Foster, No. 2 - William Dodds, teacher, Ann Brunk, No. 3 - James McQuaid, teachers, Mother Mary Alice and Mother St. Louis, No. 4 - Robert W. Campbell, teacher, Mrs. E. J. Weber, No. 6 - James Sloan, teacher, F. Fowler, No. 7 - Charles Boyd, teacher Edwin Litt, No. 8 - Leslie Beuerman, teacher Florence Brown, No. 9 - William Dennis, teacher Marion Kale; No. 10 - Alan Campbell, teacher, Mrs. John Kellar, No. 12 - James Hogg, teacher, Mrs. McDonald.

The school parade and sports were held on Frank

Johnston's farm and Gordon McGavin's exhibit of implements and the livestock show was held across the road at Dyke Wheatley's Harvey McElwain had his ponies there for the children. Mac Bolton, aged 13, demonstrated his invention of a child's wagon driven by a motor from a lawn mower. Mr. McGavin gave a demonstration of an old-time wood-splitting machine - a very rare and powerful machine.

The parade was led by the Brodhagen Band. Dan Bauerman, reeve of McKillop, officially welcomed the gathering. J. H. Kinkead, inspector, judged the school work.

Olene Godkin, S. S. 6, won the public speaking competition. Lorene Doerr was declared Miss McKillop' and Joanne Bauerman, S. S. 8 (age 10) was winner in the junior class. Gilbert Murray, S. S. 6, with 150 points, was winner in the livestock competition.

Kenneth Stewart was president in 1955 followed by William Boyd, with Harold Bryce and Gordon Papple as vice-presidents. Mr. Stewart was secretary-treasurer. Bill Henderson offered to pay poultry prizes for those winning that were purchased from him.

In 1956 the McKillop school fair was invited to join with the Seaforth Fall Fair but it was not accepted. W. H. Golding, M. P. was asked to open the 1956 fair and Archie Mann was engaged to supply entertainment.

The 1957 fair was also held at No. 6 with William Boyd as president, Gordon Papple as first vice-president and Mervin Dietz as second vice-president. Ken Stewart continued as secretary treasurer. Many changes were made in the prize list from year to year.

Jerry Montgomery was replaced by D. H. Miles as agricultural representative.

The 1957 and 58 fairs were held at No. 10, Winthrop. Gordon Papple was president in 1958 with Mervin Dietz and Ralph McNichol as vice-presidents. William Dennis was secretary-treasurer for several years at a salary of $30 a year.

In 1958, 224 school children participated in the fair Choral reading and baby shows were features of several fairs and judges received boxes of chocolates as tokens of appreciation. The 1958 fair had a public address system through courtesy of Mr. Gingerich

A dance in the township shed concluded the 1958 fair

The 1959 fair was also held at Winthrop with G Papple as president with M Dietz and R McNichol as vice presidents and W Dennis, secretary-treasurer Seaforth Lions Club was given $5 00 for use of tables Total receipts for the 59 fair were $809 00 with $655. 75 expenditure with 217 pupils participating.

Officers for 1960 were president, G Papple, vice-presidents, R McNichol and Roy Wildfong with W Dennis, secretary.

Warden John Durnin opened the 1960 fair A monster dance and draw was held at Brodhagen with total receipts of $527 80. Balance from fair and dance totalled $439 .2.

Officers for 1961 were president, Ralph McNichol, vice presidents, Roy Wildfong and Fred Rose with Campbell Wey as secretary-treasurer. A Y McLean opened the 61 fair

This was apparently the last fair with a balance of $6. 57 on hand. Weather and accommodation proved to be problems.

WALTON COMMUNITY HALL

The lovely little Walton Community Hall has served that area well in several ways and in various locations over the past 94 years Its use has ranged from fervent prayer meetings, lodge meetings and euchre parties to community concerts and dances. It is located on the south or McKillop side of County Road 25 (which is the boundary between McKillop on the south and Grey

and Morris on the north)

Early in 1870 the New Connexion Methodists of Seaforth formed a congregation near Walton with services held in Leadbury schoolhouse (S. S. 7). A pastor from Seaforth conducted weekly services.

A church built in 1873 first served this newly formed group. Linked with the Brussels circuit. It was built on the corner of con. 14 McKillop and North Gravel Road, formerly the Nelson Reid farm now owned by Lawrence Ryan. Rev. Robert Davey was the first pastor followed by Rev. C. E. Stafford.

In 1874 Walton became head of the circuit and a church was formed at Bethel. During Rev. R. S. Barker's time the church was moved to a more central location on the north side of County Road 12, Grey Township. Headed by a Mr. Riley from near Londesboro, three men of the congregation - George Grigg, John Berry and William J. Bennett helped move the 32 year old building to Walton where it was placed on a cement wall at the east end of the village a few hundred feet east of St. George's Anglican Church where Ed. Davidson lived in 1958. The wall was built by George Barcliff, a Brussels contractor along with Jim Gibson, Bill Anderson and Bill Bennett.

At the time of Church Union in 1925 when the Congregational, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Canada united, this Methodist group joined Duff's Presbyterian Church at the north end of the village and formed a new congregation.

That left the building vacant and it was next purchased by I. O. I. No. 252, Walton and used as a lodge hall until 1936.

Enterprising citizens of the village, in search of a building for community activities, formed a committee to bargain with the non-operating lodge group for the use of the hall. The lodge, reserving certain privileges, agreed to sell the building to them for $50.

When the papers were duly signed, the community

group, bolstered by the sale of $5.00 shares in the building, decided to move it to a more central location. The necessary land was made available in return for one share by William Humphries, on the old Neal property. The building was then moved to its present location - on the south side of County Road 25, McKillop, at the south end of the business section on the boundary.

Following various bees the building was completely renovated indoors and out. It is kept painted and the area is nicely planted outdoors each summer and is used for various community activities including Walton Women's Institute meetings.

When the building was used as a church, the first Sunday School superintendent was Gilbert Thompson, Mary Pollard was the organist and class leaders were M. Morrison, C. Dennis and W. Pollard. At a giant jubilee in 1923 the church was crowded and a former Walton boy, Rev. Archie McKibbon of Fingal was the special speaker.

During the 52 years it served as a church there were 28 pastors and young men of the congregation who entered the ministry including A. McKibbon, Dr. Witt Cosens and Sidney Hewitt who lost his life in the first World War.

Howard Hackwell lives in the parsonage and his garden is where the church stood.

In 1958 when the lodge was completely done over, a grand opening featured a concert of local talent and a dance.

Now in 1967, the building has been in use for about 30 years with a recreation field close by. This four-acre lot was purchased in 1945 from George Jackson for $100 an acre. Over $500 was collected canvassing. The grounds are controlled by the hall trustees and are used for ball, soccer and picnics. In 1948 - 50 there were 87 shareholders. Various presidents have been Silas Johnston, Wilfred Shortreed, Roy Bennett, Norman Williamson and others.

WINTHROP LOYAL ORANGE LODGE NO 813
1857 - 1967

L O L 813 celebrated its 100th anniversary with a centennial banquet in 1957 The lodge was instituted on February 11th, 1857 and Joseph Watson was the first Master James Pryce was the first secretary

Guests attended from Seaforth, Hensall, Wingham and Grand Bend, Joseph Caldwell was County Master for South Huron. David Boyd was the oldest member present having joined in May 12, 1887

The first meeting was on March 3, 1857 and meetings continued from then until November 1860 in a room at the farm of Thompson Morrison later Irvin Trewarthas For a couple of years the lodge met in Sam McSpadden s home in the village

In December 1862, the first lodge hall was built on the corner of Samuel Scarlett s farm - now Harold Pryce s A red frame building it was used for 41 years In 1903 they bought the Smith Baptist Church (now Louis Bolton s farm) and moved it to a site on the James H Campbell farm, the first meeting being held in December of that year It was used as a lodge room until July 1926 That same spring, the building still used was bought and alterations made The building stands on the north-east corner at Winthrop. It was the former Calder Cheese factory built in 1872

In 1947 further alterations were made a cement foundation was built and the bottom part made into a garage (now used by McKillop Municipal Telephone System) The stage was lowered and a band shell put in the side In 1957, at the time of its centennial, a steel roof was put on.

Laverne Godkin. Master, was chairman for the 100th Anniversary and secretary Kenneth Bettles recalled many past events In 1895 a picnic was held in Charles Little s bush, in 1903 Princess Alice True Blue Lodge No. 21 went dormant, in 1910 a beautiful banner was bought for $60 and for a number of years it took first prize as

the best in the parade at July 12th celebrations, in 1956 Winthrop No. 813 and Seaforth, No. 793 sponsored The Glorious Twelfth'

In 1966 Laverne Godkin again became Master. Kenneth Bettles is secretary and Frank Johnston, treasurer

Other past masters in the last three years have been Laverne Hoegy, Orville Bederman and Melvin Hulley

The lodge's Centennial project is the installation of steel siding.

McKillop township nomination meetings are held annually in the hall as well and for many years it was a popular dance hall.

Recollections

REMINISCENCES OF ROXBORO

In response to a poem written by John H. Scott and appearing in the Huron Expositor, W R Blanchard of Nelson, B C wrote - My parents lived near the crossroads, one and one-quarter miles north of Seaforth, sometimes called Mill Road End, as one and one-quarter miles west was Roxboro mill

Approaching the village (Roxboro) from the east we come to T E. Hays residence where he had a bridge over the river to his stone house On the opposite side of the road lived Willie Aitcheson. Farther on was a brick cottage occupied for a number of years by Robert Hawthorne Others who lived there were Alf. Brewer, who operated the mill; Johnny Walker who practised taxidermy and horticulture; W N Watson, storekeeper, James Scott, farm John Dickson, farm, Wm Sommers, brick-layer; and others There was a blacksmith shop, a store or two, a grist mill and a mill pond that backed the water past what is now Maitlandbank Cemetery, the roar of the water over the dam spillway, the hum of the mill stones, the crossroads the bridge, the deep hole where fishing was good, muskrat houses in winter, skating on the pond the picture setting of the Dickson and Scotts' stone residences on the riverbank among the trees, the spring floods and ice jams taking away bridges

and dams, and the large elm tree in the middle of the road near the lane gate that led along the river bank to Robert Scott's home

Further along were McDowells, Blacks, and going east on the Roxboro road from the townline bridge - Jimmie Davidson (later Ned Hinchley), the Cash family, Rob McMillan, then Roxboro. Further up the river beyond Hays bridge were the Govenlocks - Andrew, Tom and Robbie and Jock Grieve s

Yes, Roxboro was a beautiful setting with its river, rolling hills, picturesque homes and clumps of maple woods

AN OLD TIMER" RELATES

On November 13, 1859, the first Methodist sermon was preached in the Seaforth McKillop area. 'Old Timer's directions to the exact spot are related thusly Go to the second corner north of Seaforth, turn right (at Grieve s bridge) go to the next corner where there is a little church - Duff s Keep on going past the corner and on the left is the old Beattie homestead. Next came the Lawrence farm which was the land my grandfather cleared and settled on. His name was James Sparling and he was one of the very early settlers in the township (Christopher Sparling, apparently the father of James, died in 1866) The land was bought in 1854 In the old land James Sparling was a local preacher and as soon as he had built a little log house and cleared a bit of land he went among the settlers announcing that he would hold church services in his home '

According to an article published some time ago in an United Church publication, the first service ever held in this area was conducted in that log house. For a time, apparently, it was part of a circuit with Seaforth and Clinton. It is not known for sure if a church actually existed.

Another account relates that Rev George H Cornish preached the first sermon, the service being held in the upper room in the new frame house of James Sparling and the room was filled In 1864 Seaforth left the circuit and it is presumed that Clinton had pulled away at the same time too

Continuing in a pioneer vein, Old Timer said "The early pioneers suffered poverty, loneliness, sickness and often death without even the aid of a doctor They often had to beat a trail through dense bush, carrying what little grain they had raised to have it ground into meal Before too long there were mills at Roxboro and Egmondville To-day we are enjoying the fruits of their never-ending toil He recalled the old tin forms his grandmother used in which to mould tallow with a piece of yarn or string run through as a wick

He also describes one of the earliest methods of making soap The old ash barrel sat on a platform in the back yard with a piece of tin placed underneath the barrel which formed a funnel at the front, so the liquid coming out through the bottom would run into a pail placed beneath. It became our duty as boys to take turns at emptying ashes from the wood cook stove into the barrel To this was added fat and pork rinds along with some sort of powder (probably borax) Water was poured on top of this and allowed to seep through to the bottom of the barrel and out into the pail. This liquid was emptied into a large boiler and put on the stove to boil until its contents became fairly thick - we thought Mother was performing a miracle when she ended up with lots of soap Clothes were clean and white when washed and boiled with this soap

Old Timer also recalls other interesting times Many happy days were spent on the banks of Silver Creek which wended its way through the Case farm We were allowed to go there as long as no damage was done Also behind the cemetery where the Maitland River flows, the old swimming hole was always another source of

pleasure.

'And there was the old pond on the Coleman property behind where the high school now stands.' It always lost a lot of its frog population in the spring and summer to the many boys who played there In the winter there was always a well-worn track to it through the field. There, we used to clear the ice of snow, put on our spring skates and play shinny A good stiff tree branch having a crook on the end resembling a hockey stick and with that and a hard rubber ball or chunk of ice, boys would have their game, with no rest periods or hard and fast rules Sometimes they were so tired they could scarcely walk home'

PIONEER DAYS AS RECALLED BY MELVIN BLANSHARD

Away back about 75 years ago (1858) a young man from Brockville landed in Harpurhey by train and went north to a place called Roxboro - a small village with a flour mill, a store and some dwelling houses. He got a job at the mill as a mechanic Then a man called Govenlock decided to build a sawmill one and one-quarter miles up the river to be run by water-power. Mr Blanchard got the mill running and was then engaged as head sawyer After a couple of years a brother of Govenlock s decided to build a steam saw mill five miles back in the bush, and again Hiram Blanchard was chosen to build the mill. He and his helpers worked hard getting out timbers, putting up the frame and putting in machinery. They started to saw without any roof or sides on the building as they had to cut the timber for these

After a number of years, John Govenlock, son of T Govenlock, decided to build another steam saw mill two miles farther north. Hiram Blanshard was again asked to build it and that was the mill at which Melvin Blanshard, the writer, appeared on the scene - a boy of about nine years It was called Victoria Saw Mill.

He usually spent Saturdays at the mill and he

recalled how he liked the throb of the engines, the noise of the saw, the smell of the timber, the gurgling of the bull-wheel chain, and the ox driver calling to the oxen drawing in the big logs. Often he went with the man who drove them and sometimes, when the log boat was empty, he was allowed to drive the oxen, when he was about 12 years old.

About a dozen men worked around the mill - all big strong jovial fellows who used to carry and throw him about. When night came all would go to supper in a log shanty, the cook being 'Daddy' Donaldson. He went along and had supper with the rest, which was mostly potatoes, meat, bread and butter with black strap (molasses) for dessert.

His father died about 1893 at 64 having served his day and generation well. He said a number of barns and houses he built were still standing in 1933. Of a family of nine, three were milling in Northern Ontario and British Columbia - like their father, they followed the timber.

McKILLOP LOGGING BEES SIXTY YEARS AGO

The area for logging was about 10 acres, from which the timber had been cut and the valuable portions taken to the mill. The rest was cut down as it was of no value in those days and lay in fallow for a number of years until a logging bee was held. Preparations for the event was simple. About 20 or 30 hand spikes were cut, trimmed and peeled. Waiting were five or six teams of oxen and horses with chains and strong harness. There were about five men with each team. The fallow was laid out in strips, each gang taking a strip. The rule was that everything had to be cleared out and piled up - stumps, logs, small poplars and willows. The boys had to carry drinking water for the men and the women and girls prepared the meals.

'The bee is on. The logs and stumps are beginn-

ing to move and the longer the gang worked the more interest was aroused. The question was - which gang was going to get through to the other side first. What with clanking of chains, snapping of whips, creaking of timber and shouting of men, the race was most exciting. Some gang would win and away they would go to supper. Those left behind would go to supper when their job was finished. After supper out came the fiddle and the dance was on'.

"Those days are gone" continued Mr. Blanchard, "and so are the men and women who have done their bit in a humble way, and McKillop is the better to-day for their industry.

'As the old Indian sang as he was being gradually driven out of the woods -

I am a lone forest Indian who once had a home
In the farthest of forests where wild deer doth roam;
But their forms they have vanished and cold is their clay
For the steel of the white man has swept them away' '

CUTTING AND DRAWING CORD WOOD

Getting two or three hundred cords of wood cut and piled up ready to draw the next winter was quite a task. However, there were lots of good men in those days and all could handle an axe and endure hard work all day long. I remember my brother and I cut 150 cords for Dr. Gouinlock in the swamp south of Winthrop for 60 cents a cord. We carried our dinner and ate it in the woods.

'The drawing of the wood was the hardest task for the horses and a long, long day for all concerned. The early morning call was 'Hoo How! Jump up boys and get the horses fed. We've got to get that pile of wood out and the pitch-holes are pretty bad. It will be noon before you get out to the salt block!''

'The women were up at 5 00 a. m. to serve us a hot, hearty breakfast, keep the home fires burning and have a good hot supper ready when we returned home. It was necessary to keep the frying-pan full of meat, pots full of potatoes and to set bread every night They stayed at home and willingly did their part.

As the pitch-holes were bad it was quite common to upset a load and break sleighs and harness, but there was always lots of help as nearly everybody was drawing wood or logs He said he counted as many as 40 teams, at one time, one behind the other The wood was all burnt at the salt works in Seaforth - thousands and thousands of cords

'Teamsters would have mishaps - a horse would get its leg broken, or one would just lie down, never to get up again, but the teamster wouldn t quit - he would get a new horse and get going again. He said he remembered the genial old editor of the Huron Expositor - M Y McLean, who used to sympathize with the teamsters in their accidents and losses, and gave encouragement to keep on going and praise when they won out

Those early pioneers left a heritage - those brave Scottish, Irish, English and German ancestors of ours

The writer of these stories died July 1, 1958 at the age of 93. He was the son of Hiram and his wife, Agnes Cash He spent his entire life in McKillop until going to Brussels in 1951 His first wife was Betsy Dodds, second wife was Alice Fralick. He had three sons - Thomas and Hiram of McKillop, Melvin of Montreal and one daughter, Mrs Stanley King of Stratford

The Blanshards were of United Empire Loyalist stock. William R Blanshard died in Nelson, B C , in 1954 Born near Seaforth, he was the eldest of a family of nine and left school when young to help his father provide for the family He went to Montreal in 1887; then to near Sudbury where he was a millwright. There he helped clear the forests, built a sawmill and homes -

this place now called Warren. After 14 years there the timber was cleared and the mill closed down. After working in other northern centres he went to Nelson, B C where he was an outstanding millright, engineer and builder

THE BLACKSMITH - A LOST ARTISAN

There is nothing more fascinating than a blacksmith shop The combination of heat, sweat, sparks and leather aprons produced an atmosphere that had to be experienced to be appreciated The golden age of the smithy had largely passed before most of us grew old enough for exploration. In the early days of this century, the whole of the local transportation system hinged upon the broad shoulders of the blacksmith. It was not uncommon to see 20 to 30 horses lined up waiting for a shoe job Horses used to draw drays, carriages and wagons by road to the mills, to church and to shop, covering a lot of miles and their feet needed attention regularly, often every two or three weeks

With winter came the necessity of having horses sharp shod Peculiarities of horses had to be considered If the horse threw out this was up to the smith to correct He was not only a smith - he was a foot surgeon. The hoof had to be trimmed and filed before the shoe was fitted - hot, of course The shoe was heated a glowing red in the forge, fitted, reheated, hammered and refitted until it was the proper fit, then dipped in water to cool, before nailing it in place on the horses foot

In many cases, padding and weights had to be added to correct the horses gait and generally improve the working efficiency of the animal There were many trials in the art of shoeing a horse It undoubtedly took brawn but also required plenty of old-fashioned knowledge.

A blacksmith shop is more than that. Long before days of acetylene and electric welding, the smith

welded in the forge - a trade in itself The wrought iron or steel to be welded was ground so that pieces to be joined would lie diagonally on each other Originally borax was used to clean the points and thus aid the fusion. The two pieces were heated together, then taken out and hammered into fusion - really the bouncing of molecules around until those of one section married another

Later on a weld compound was developed which speeded up the operation. The smith welded many things in his forge, including wagon tires, carriage steps, implements, etc The forging and hammering process had to be repeated several times before the operation was complete

Another aspect of the trade was the making and tempering of tools used by stone masons - a lot of heavy work The business end of the bellows would measure from four to six feet across and an apprentice kept air flowing by working at the end of a long handle. Frequently a cow horn was placed on the nose of the handle similar to a pump handle This smooth grip gave a little extra leverage The smith comforted the little helper with the tender word that working the bellows would give him the muscle for handling a man's job one of these days

The smithy must know exactly the proper color at which to pull the chisel or other tool from the fire and douse it in the water barrel It was a knack possessed by a few and desired by many An expert in this field drew trade for miles around.

Wagon tires often fell off in extended hot dry spells - the wooden rims and wheels dried out and shrunk - so the tires fell off, often on the road or street. The only remedy was a trip to the smithy The tire had to be made smaller, so was cut and the circumference of the rim taken by means of a trailer , which measured the outside and transferred this measurement to the steel tire The tire was firewelded at this new point, less a little then it was heated causing it to expand. While hot

the tire was slipped over the wheel, doused with water which caused the tire to shrink onto the rim for a tight fit.

The smith was the first auto mechanic as the horseless carriage transformed smithies into garages The blacksmith provided a never-failing supply of horse shoes for pitching Every kid had a court or pad and a fascinating variety of shoes. The smith usually threw the stakes in with the deal you got them for carrying them away The kid who was envied in the neighborhood was the 'expert' who could tell the faults of the particular horse for which any of the odd shoes in the yard had been made to measure

Then - 'Under the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy stands
The smith a mighty man was he with large and sinewy hands'

Now Under the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy snoozes,
No horse since 1933 has come to him for shoeses

STATUTE LABOUR

A record dated January 4th, 1841 provides information concerning the Municipal Council of McKillop and Hibbert,

Regulation and Bylaws - 1. Resolved that the height of a lawful fence shall be five feet, six inches and either staked or ridered. 2 No swine to be free at large until upwards of 30 pounds 3 Horses and sheep shall be free commoners (allowed to roam anywhere for pasture) 4 No breachy animals were to run as free commoners"

At that time 37 ratepayers were eligible for statute labor. They were the gentlemen who composed the gallant little band of pioneer settlers of the said

townships - Arthur McCann, Hugh McLachlin, Miles McCann, Patrick Carlon, Michael Griffin, Daniel Kernan, Edward Downey, Thomas Fox, James Mollineaux, Adolphus Meyer, William Chalk, John Carl, Archibald Dickson, James Scott, Robert Scott, James, William, John and Richard Cluff, James Young, Alexander Cameron, John Lapalie, Francis Runciman, Pat Lennon, William Lee, Tim Tierney, William Longworth, Dennis Downie, William Keenan, Philip Carlin, John Carlin, Michael McCann, John Bulger, Hugh McIntosh, Robert Calder, Robert Scott, John Henderson, James, John, Hugh and Thomas Grieve, John Govenlock, William Habkirk, C L VanEgmond, John Laidlaw and James Maxwell.

By 1889, at the end of a half-century, the only representatives left were: William Lee, John Henderson and James Cluff of Seaforth and Robert Scott of Roxboro. Archibald Dickson was elected district councillor for McKillop, Hibbert and Logan - that is, he was the representative to what is now county council

HURON TRACT CENTENARY 1828 - 1928

August, 1928 - This event was celebrated by the City of Stratford, the towns of Mitchell, Seaforth, Clinton, Goderich, villages and all townships touching on the Huron Tract now No 8 Highway Along the 50 mile Huron road from Goderich to Stratford, six cairns, honoring the pioneers, had been erected. Services of tribute honoring those who had opened up the Huron Tract a century earlier were held at the cairn sites and prizes were awarded for the best decorated gateways along the way The Huron Tract was the first road through Canada Company's lands

A long line of motor cars carrying officials and Historical Society officials covered the distance in one and one-half hours of actual travelling One hundred years earlier John Galt had said This road, when

completed, is going to make the journey from Hamilton to Goderich possible in four or five days'

A cairn honoring Col Anthony VanEgmond was erected in Harpurhey (one mile west of Seaforth) by McKillop, Tuckersmith and Hullett townships and the Town of Seaforth When the road was first surveyed the country was an unbroken forest, a trackless wilderness This was the land of our ancestors - the noblest class of pioneers who ever settled any country and directed their footsteps and their vision in order to find and found homes and a land of freedom for themselves and their unborn children, "Thomas McMillan, M P for South Huron said as the Cairn was unveiled.

Displayed at farm gates and at cairns were implements of the soil reminiscent of early days in Huron such as ox yokes, spinning wheels, flails, wooden plows

James Robertson, a Canada Company Commissioner, unveiled the Cairn at Harpurhey Continuing, Mr McMillan said, This is not a land that was settled by any individual nationality, but rather a land settled by many of the very flower of all of several nationalities - Scotchmen, Englishmen, Irishmen, Dutchmen and German together with the old United Empire Loyalists, who came to hew our earthly homes for themselves and their families They were missionaries in that particular field of pioneering — missionaries of all religious denominations

Why did they come to such a land? Because they left behind them in those older countries, conditions largely akin to serfdom , he continued and told of his father s and mother's struggles in the Old Land.

His mother was Mary Laidlaw - and he told of the connection with the Brine s, Laidlaw s, Walker's, Gillespie's, Dodd s of the Seaforth area, the McDowell's, Fergusons, McMillan s and Hunt s of McKillop, the Gemmell s, Broadfoots McCartney s and Sinclair s of Tuckersmith, all on his father s side And on his

mother's side, the Grieve s, Cowan's, Dale s Munroe's, Knechtel s, Dorrance s Shannon's and Campbell s

Telling of the hardship in his homeland, he said potatoes were often all they had in the cupboard in the way of food in the early 1800 s In Scotland he said an ancestor worked 18 hours a day, from 8 a m to 10 at night, including Saturday and Sunday, for 18 months, to earn steerage to America In Scotland men were so plentiful and work so scarce, there were 10 men for every job

He and his brother and Gilbert McMichael, his wife and two children, set out in a sailing ship and it took 70 days to cross the Atlantic and an additional three weeks in the St Lawrence River They made good progress in the daytime but were driven back at night by contrary winds After reaching Montreal they sailed up the Ottawa River as far as By town (now Ottawa), then through Rideau Canal to Kingston, to Hamilton. For the balance of the way they either travelled by foot or ox cart Once settlers came they had to stay for they had no means to leave

The McMillans settled in Hullett and McKillop in 1841 where the Dickson s, Scott s, Broadfoot's, Govenlock s etc had settled earlier

The early pioneers , he said, were men and women of great character, men of outstanding natural ability and great powers of endurance

He told of one couple - a Gordon Campbell who married a McMichael On the morning of the wedding they left a farm in Hullett and McKillop on the town line, walked through woods past the McDowell homestead, crossed the Maitland River at the old brewery, reached the Huron Road at Meyer s Corner (A D Scott s and J F Scott s farm) and walked to Goderich, were married and returned home the same evening

The noble, continuous fight which those early pioneers put up to secure the means of sustenance and establish homes is beyond all praise and worthy of high-

est admiration and should inspire us to go forward and carry to greater perfection the splendid work which they had so well begun

Theirs was strenuous exertion', he continued, and they had no time nor thought of enquiring what the government or country could do for them, but rather what they could do for themselves, and so they went to work with stout hearts and willing hands to clear away the forest, make roads, erect homes and barns, establish schools and churches, and in this way make this country blossom like a rose , he concluded.

Prizes for best decorated entrances in this area from Alma Corner to Dublin were: J W Beattie, W Jamieson, F Fowler and William Devereaux.

Municipal Officers

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS OVER THE YEARS

McKillop Township Reeves who became Wardens
1879 - Thomas E. Hays, died in 1929
.889 James Hays, died in .917
.9.5 - John M Govenlock, died in .951
.937 John M. Eckert
1966 - Kenneth Stewart

TOWNSHIP COUNCILS 1843 - 1967

From 1843 - 46, a Mr Downie (Robert or Edward) represented McKillop and other associated townships, on Huron District Council, with Robert Hays being representative from 1847 - 49. John Govenlock was the first clerk for McKillop, Hibbert and Logan townships and Matthew Ward was assessor Logan withdrew in .844 and Dennis Downie was tax collector for McKillop and Hibbert. Town wardens (township councillors) in .843 were James Grieve, John Laidlaw and Alex Cameron.

In 1850 - Reeve, Robert Hays, representing McKillop and Hullett.
Council - Dennis Downie, August Van Egmond, John Bingham, Thomas Govenlock.

Clerk - Robert Cana
Treasurer - Thomas Govenlock
Assessors - Patrick O'Sullivan, Robert McMillan, James Longbottom
Tax Collector - Alex Wilson
Auditors P O'Sullivan, George Thompson
Superintendent of Education - Rev. Charles Fletcher

1851 - Reeve, Robert Hays (McKillop and Hullett)
1852 53 - 54 - Reeve, Robert Hays (McKillop and Grey)
Clerk - John O Sullivan (for McKillop in Huron and Hibbert in Perth)
1855 Reeve, Robert Hays (McKillop, Grey and Howick)
1856 - 58 - Reeve, Dennis Downie and Thomas Govenlock alternately
1859 - Reeve, T Govenlock
Council - John Elliot, Joseph Evans, Irwin Johnston, Dennis Downey
Clerk William J Shannon (salary 18 pounds)
1860 - Reeve, T Govenlock (by motion)
1862 - Council D Downey, J Elliot, John O'Sullivan, Robert Scott
Treasurer R Hays or P O'Sullivan
Assessor - Jos Evans
Auditor John Shannon
Road Inspector - R Turnbull
1863 - Reeve, Dennis Downey
Council - R Scott, T Govenlock, J O Sullivan, James Hays
1864 Reeve, T Govenlock
Council - J O Connell, D Downey, R Scott, J Hays
1865 - Reeve, John Elliot
Deputy Reeve - D Downey (appointed from four councillors)
Council R Scott, Joseph Evans, J Hays
1866 - Reeve, Joseph Evans
Deputy Reeve - James Hays

Council - John Horan, R Scott, Samuel Hannah

867 Reeve Joseph Evans, Council same
Assessor Solomon J Shannon

1868 - Reeve, J Evans,
Deputy Reeve - Sam Hannah
Council - J Hays, John Malone, J Horan
Clerk - John O Sullivan
(Minutes signed by Joseph Evans, Reeve of McKillop
Thomas King, Reeve of Hibbert
C C Johnston, McKillop local superintendent
and Wm. Rath, Hibbert, local superintendent)

1869 - Reeve, Wm. J Shannon
Deputy Reeve - Sam Hannah
Council - J Malone, Robert Pattison, Thomas Davidson

1870 - Reeve, W J Shannon
Deputy Reeve - S. Hannah
Council - J Malone, John Horan, Thomas Murray

1871 - Reeve, W J Shannon
Deputy Reeve James Hays
Council - same

1872 74 - Reeve, W J Shannon
Deputy Reeve J Hays
Council Wm Bell, Alex Kerr, Andrew Govenlock

1875 Reeve, John Govenlock
Deputy Reeve - T E Hays
Council A Kerr, W Bell, J Malone

1876 - Reeve, Thomas E. Hays,
Deputy Reeve A Kerr
Council - J Malone, Wm. Grieve, Wm. Evans.

1877 - Reeve, T E. Hays,
Deputy Reeve A Kerry
Council - Evans, Grieve, J Horan

1878 - Reeve, T E Hays

Deputy Reeve - A Kerr
Council Evans, Grieve, James Hillen

1879 - 80 Reeve T E Hays (McKillop s first warden)
Deputy Reeve Either A Kerr or Wm. Grieve
with Geo. Holland and Wm Evans, council

.881 - Same, except Wm. Evans, deputy reeve

.882 - Reeve, James Hays,
Deputy Reeve - W Evans
Council - Holland, Kerr, Wm Archibald

1883 - Reeve, J Hays
Deputy Reeve - Geo Holland
Council - Archibald, Kerr, Daniel Manley

.884 Council Archibald, Manley, Michael Murdie

.885 - -86 Reeve, J Hays
Deputy Reeve D Manley
Council - Archibald, Murdie, R G Ross

.887 - -88 Reeve, J Hays
Deputy Reeve - Robert G Ross
Council - Alex Marchie, Chas Dodds, John Benneweis

1889 - Reeve, James Hays (McKillop s second reeve)
Deputy Reeve T Benneweis
Council - J Evans, John Morrison, C Dodds
Clerk - John C Morrison

.890 Reeve, J Benneweis
Deputy Reeve - J Morrison
Council - D Manley, J Evans, C Dodds

891 - 92 - Council Manley, Evans, Wm. Archibald

.893 94 Reeve, J Benneweis
Deputy Reeve - James Evans
Council - Manley, Archibald, Wm McGavin

1895 - Deputy Reeve Wm Archibald
Assessor - Wm. Evans
Treasurer - S J Shannon
Tax Collector C Dodds

.896 97 Reeve John Morrison
Deputy Reeve, Archibald
Council D Manley, McGavin, Joseph C Morr

ison
Clerk - Continues to be John C Morrison

1898 - Reeve, John Morrison
Deputy Reeve D. Manley
Council - McGavin, Jos. C Morrison, John S Brown

1899 - Reeve received $50. and Councillors $45. each
Reeve - John Morrison replaced by James Lockhart in late 1899 and again was reeve in 1890
Mr Morrison died in 1904.

1900 - Council Arch. McGregor, J O Loughlin, Alex Gardner, J G Grieve

1901 - Reeve, D Manley
Council Same

1902 - Reeve, Michael Murdie
Council A McGregor, J O Loughlin, John S Brown, Charles Little

1903 - Reeve, M Murdie
Council - J Brown, C Little, Wm. G Smith, John Murray

1904 - Reeve, M. Murdie
Council - John M. Govenlock, J Brown, C Little, J Murray

1905 - Reeve, D. Manley
Council - J M Govenlock, C Little, F J McQuaid, Michael Rowland
Clerk John C Morrison, died 1905
Sol. J Shannon completed the term as Clerk

1906 - Reeve, John M Govenlock until 1919 and warden in 1915
Council - John McDowell, F J McQuaid, Henry Bederman, M Rowland
Clerk - Michael Murdie

1907 Council - J McDowell, Alex Ross, James V Ryan, James Cowan

1908 - Council - H Bederman, Ross, Cowan, Thos. Murray

1909 - 10 - Council - Bederman, Cowan, Albert Dundas,

F J McQuaid

1911 - Council Bettserman, Cowan, McQuaid, James S. Smith

1912 - Council - Conrad Eckert, Thomas Purcell, John Balfour, John Govenlock

1913 - Council - F McQuaid, C Eckert, J Govenlock, R Archibald

1914 - Council McQuaid, Eckert, Archibald, D. Regele

1915 - Council - Geo. Hearn, McQuaid, Regele, J Govenlock

1916 - 18 - Council - Geo. Harn, McQuaid, Regele, John Dodds

1919 Council - Harn, Regele, McQuaid, Robert Reid

1920 - 28 - Reeve Frank J McQuaid (succeeding J M Govenlock 1906 1919)

Council - J Scott, Regele, Ed. Horan, J Dodds

192. - 26 - Council Dodds, Regele, Horan, F Bruce Medd

Clerk - John McNay succeeding M Murdie (1906 - 1920 or part of 1921)

1927 Council - Dodds, Regele, Thos. McKay, John M Eckert

1928 Council - Regele, McKay, Eckert, John Campbell

1929 - Reeve, John Dodds,

Council - Same

1930 - Reeve, J Dodds

Council - Regele, McKay, Campbell, N R Dorrance

193. Reeve, John M. Eckert

Council - Campbell, McKay, Dorrance, Jos O'Rourke

1932 - Reeve, John Campbell

Council - H Alexander, Regele, Dorrance, O'Rourke

1933 - 37 - Reeve, J M Eckert (reeve to 1938 - fourth warden in 1937)

Council Alexander, O Rourke, Dorrance E. Hackwell

1938 - Council Alexander, Dorrance, Hackwell, P E. Maloney

1939 Reeve N R. Dorrance (until death in 1947)
Council Hackwell, Maloney, Chas. Dolmage, , Albert Harrison (same council 1940-41 42)

1943 44 · Council - Dolmage, Harrison, Maloney, Dan Beuerman
Clerk - John C McNay, died 1942 · succeeded by J M Eckert

1945 - 47 - Council D Beuerman, Geo. R Campbell, Frank Kirkby, Matthew Murray

1948 - Reeve Dan Beuerman (1948 - 1963 16 years)
Council - Frank Kirkby, M Murray, Jas T Scott, Albert Siemon

1949 - Reeve, Dan Beuerman
51. Council - Wilson Little, Murray, Scott, Siemon

1952 - 55 Reeve, Dan Beuerman
Council - Jerry Doerr, Little, Earl Mills, Siemon

1956 57 · Reeve, Dan Beuerman
Council - Doerr, Little, Mills, Herb Williamson

1958 Reeve, Dan Beuerman
60. Council - Doerr, Williamson, Sam McClure, Wm. Ryan

1961-
1963 Reeve, Dan Beuerman
Council - Allan Campbell, Wm. Dennis, Ralph McNichol, Kenneth Stewart

1964 - 67 - Reeve, Kenneth Stewart
Council - Harold Dodds, Campbell, Dennis, McNichol.

John M Eckert, who served as reeve from 1931 to 1938 with the exception of 1932, was warden in 1937

For King and Country

Area residents who gave their lives for King and Country, including many from McKillop, are:

A. W. Archibald
Albert Bates
Bernard Brown
John E. Bullard
Douglas Calder
Herb Chapman
Francis N Cluff
Rollo E. Cook
E. Cecil Dilling
Sam H. Dorrance
Thomas Edgar
Thos E. Govenlock
Clarence S. Garden
James Hutchinson
J Scott Hays
Wm. H Hall
Wm. Hart
W Stanley Hays
James Horan
James Jamieson
George Mulholland
Arthur McLean
Charles McNamara
John McLeod
Arthur C. Neely
A. T Parke
John J. Purcell
R. E. Rivers
Manson Reeves
J. Leslie Reid
Charles Rolph
Clifford W Ruffell
Russel G. Scott
James Spearpoint
Percy Vanner
Francis Weiland
George Weiland
Frederick Weir
Clarence Westcott
Robert I. West

Century Farms

Name	Address	Lot	Con.
John Shea, Sr.	R. R. #5, Seaforth	11	4
John W Thompson	R. R #2, Seaforth	34	7
Wm James Storey	R R #2, Seaforth S1/2	30	5
Sam J. Scott	R. R #2, Seaforth	31	2
James O Sullivan	R R, #4, Seaforth	12	.
John Moylan	R R #5, Seaforth	10	6
James McQuaid	R R. #5, Seaforth S1/2	10	3
Joseph McLaughlin	R. R, #2, Walton	5	11
R S McKercher	R R. #1, Dublin	13	6
William McDowell	R R. #2, Seaforth	34	2
Nelson McClure	R R #2, Seaforth	32	4
Thomas Kale	R. R #5, Seaforth	15	2
Harry Johnston	R R #1, Dublin	16	9
Thomas Govenlock	R. R #5, Seaforth	26	3
William R Flanagan,	R, R. #1, Dublin	2	6
Richard Downey	R R #5, Seaforth	10	4
William T Dodds	R R. #1, Seaforth	31	7
Arthur Devereaux	R R #4, Seaforth	22	1
Robert W Campbell	R R. #1, Dublin	19	7
Harold Bolton	R R #1, Dublin	15	8
Norman Beuerman	R. R. #1, Dublin	5 & 6	8
Fred Bennewies	R R #1, Bornholm	1	9
Arthur Alexander	Walton	31	10
Harry Regele	R R #1, Dublin	3	9

Fond Memories

by
Vincent J. Lane

Another old tradition has faded out of sight -
The custom of the family trip to town on Saturday night.
Saturday night on Main Street was always a big affair,
And everyone from Joe and Dick did congregate there.

Folks did a lot of shopping, there is no doubt of that,
But it took second fiddle to the regular friendly chat.
The children had a dime to spend for a hot dog and a cone,
The little girls could buy a ring with a lovely shining stone.

For those who do remember - Agree? I think you will -
You could get as much in those times as for now a dollar bill.
Mother got the groceries and yard goods for a trade -
Perhaps for potatoes or some eggs or butter she had made.

Recall when hockey you could see three games for fifteen cents,
While just the other day it cost 'two bucks' for kids and gents
Oh yes, those days have come and gone - it is progress, if you will -
Don't be surprised to learn some day, they've scrapped the dollar bill!

Conclusion

by Mrs Joseph Grummett

I hope you enjoy the story - it is really only a small portion of the events which took place over a period of 140 years. There were happy times, sad times and best of all - busy times, for when people are busy they are accomplishing things - things which make for progress and better living.

Are the people in McKillop becoming too unconcerned about their municipal life? We squeal when things don t suit us - taxes are too high, there isn t enough work done on the roads in my section, and so on, but what do we do about it.

In the past, nominations were well attended and at one meeting 14 persons were nominated for the offices of reeve and council.

I hope you will forgive all errors and omissions. Some of the names may not be spelled correctly but I used the spelling which was used in the minutes or the news papers.

Those responsible for the preparation of this history are indebted to many area residents and former residents for their assistance and co-operation in making available the documents and information that provide the basis for these pages. Among these are: -

Arthur Bolton
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C E. Flynn
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Vera Haist
The Huron Expositor
Vincent J. Lane
Clarence Maloney
Mrs R. K. McFarlane
Mrs. Gordon McKenzie
Donald McKercher
Robert E. McMillan
Earl McSpadden
Mrs. Gordon Papple
Jean Scott
Sam Scott
Mrs. Joseph Shea
James Sloan
Mrs Kenneth Stewart
Campbell Wey

A History of
McKILLOP

1867 1967

6.00

A History of
McKILLOP

compiled and edited by

Mrs. Joseph Grummett

Published by
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McKillop Council - 1967

(rear, left) Councillors Allan Campbell, Harold Dodds, Ralph McNichol, William Dennis, (seated) James McQuaid, assessor, John M. Eckert, clerk-treasurer, Kenneth Stewart, reeve and Wilson Little, road superintendent.

Forward

As Canada celebrates its 100th birthday in 1967 we the Council of McKillop Township decided it was only fitting to commemorate this great event. Early in 1967, 110 years after the Township of McKillop as it now exists was organized for municipal purposes, the McKillop council unanimously endorsed a motion to have a book of the memoirs of the Township published honoring different phases of pioneer life

We pay tribute to our forefathers who endured many hardships in opening up the Township, clearing land and building some of the finest farms in the Province of Ontario. With their great foresight in building roads, schools and churches our young people have been able to attain higher standards of education, making a great contribution to society throughout all parts of the Continent. Equally great is the contribution of those who have remained on the farm to provide the necessities of life for our urban brothers and sisters.

We owe a debt of gratitude to those who supplied stories, illustrations, information and facts, thus making this book possible in relating the past of McKillop Township. A special thanks is extended to a former ratepayer, one time schoolteacher of No. 13 School Roxboro Mrs. Lillian Grummett who dedicated much time to the writing of this book

In closing, may we hope that you as citizens and future citizens find this chapter in the colorful history of McKillop Township, interesting and enjoyable

The Old Home Place

Wherever Life has led our feet,
Whatever we have done,
Whatever in the storm and heat
Our hands have lost or won,
There is an image dear and fine
That has not lost its grace,
The picture of that lovely shrine
Hearts call The Old Home Place

Around its crumbling walls still run
The paths our childhood made,
Still lighted by the kindly sun
The places where he played.
The heart still loves to slip away
In memory, and trace
The winding road that leads away
Back to The Old Home Place

by C E Flynn

Introduction

Centennials are everyone's business, especially this year, 1967, when our Nation - Canada - is celebrating this notable event. We are all reflecting back this year - we should remember and honor our forefathers - the pioneers who developed our land and our township, and the immigrants who have come over since and further developed the country to its present status People should be interested in the history of the land and township of their birth or adoption.

Huron's and McKillop's birth was fostered by pioneer families who were self-sufficient in providing their own clothing, food, shelter and education. Too soon do we forget the past. Their treasured books lie dusty in stuffy attics or libraries, or worse still have been destroyed. In many instances descendants know not of their famous ancestors. It is hoped that the present and succeeding generations will preserve records so that in 2067, that generation will be able to look back on our record of achievements and progress; or maybe, errors.

Most closely associated with the history of Huron County was the Canada Company - a huge monopoly of English capitalists - John Galt being the originator. Influential shareholders were Lords Goderich and Colborne and some twenty other men after whom the various townships in the old 'Huron Tract" were named. Settlement commenced under the direction of this strong land monopoly The townships they became possessed

of were: Colborne, Goderich, Hullett, Hay, McKillop, Stanley, Stephen, Usborne and Tuckersmith in Huron County The great success attending the early settlement and subsequent development of the "Huron Tract' was due solely to the great natural advantages of the territory and the enterprise of the settlers more in spite of the monopolists than by their aid

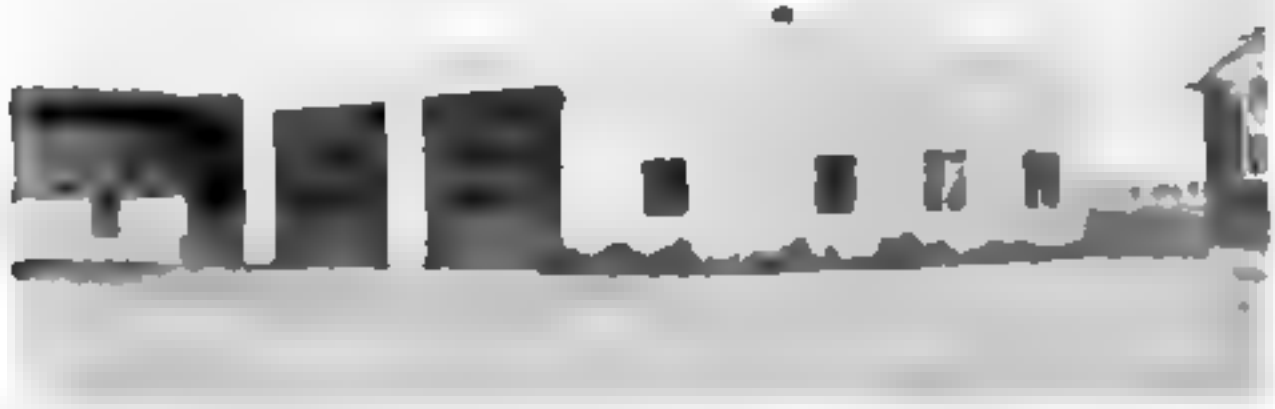
The very early settlers were aided greatly by Col Anthony Van Egmond who had the foresight to have on hand a stock of 500 barrels of flour during 1831 In the winter of 1831-32 his anticipations were realized when settlers became more numerous, and it proved to be a profitable business venture.

After this he kept 20 four-horse teams on the road between Toronto and Goderich to assist in bringing in and settling immigrants and their goods.

Surveyed in 1827 the first "highway" was chopped through the Huron district in 1828, now No. 8 highway. It was surveyed by John McDonald assisted by ten or twelve men, two pack horses and pack Indians who brought in provisions and other necessities Col. A. VanEgmond was the contractor for building the road.

The first point of contact of this road with the present County of Huron was at the south-east corner of McKillop where Carronbrook (Dublin) is now situated. From there it took its course along what is now the southern boundaries of McKillop and Hullett. It was over this road that most of the early settlers came in, many of them before it was chopped out, until which time the "blazed" trees were the only guide boards.

The first settlement to any extent was known as 'Irish Settlement" which developed around 1832, at the south-east corner in McKillop and extending westward. The earliest man to have property registered in his name at this point was Patrick Carlin, with a possibility that Michael Rawley and he, or both, may have secured deeds for their lands as early as 1827-28, by the records at the registry office. Their descendants lived



A machine garage was erected at Winthrop in the late fifties to provide accommodations for modern road maintenance equipment as well as an office for the road superintendent. The garage is located south of the township offices.

For years a busy sawmill at Winthrop was a source of lumber for much of the construction that went on in McKellop at the turn of the century. Those busy in the yard when the picture was taken by Brussels photographer J. H. Smith, have not been identified.

Through the years many thousands of board feet of high quality maple sugar have been produced in McKaig's Bush. This is a typical scene as sap is being collected in the Dennis maple bush.

Hay pressing was hard work and required the help of many. This crew is operating a hay pressing outfit owned by Peter Vanderdoes on the Joseph Dennis farm on the 14th early in the century.

in what are known as the Dublin, St. Columban and Beechwood areas for many years. Other early settlers in that area were : Dennis and John Downie (Downey), Michael Carlin, Patrick O'Sullivan, Thomas Fox, H. O' Neill and a Mr. O'Connell on the McKillop side.

The name of the township, McKillop, derives from one of the first directors, later deputy-governor of the Canada Company McKillop is bounded on the southeast by Logan; on the southwest by Hibbert and Tuckersmith; on the northwest by Hullett and northeast by Morris and Grey. Its shape is almost a square but a little on the bias. Each sideroad including the North Road (Co. Road 12) has a peculiarity in the third block- surveyors from the north and surveyors from the south met there and found their lines to be 120 yards apart. When the roadmakers followed the surveyors they made a connection or correction jog. This jog on the North Road has been smoothed into an easy curve for the sake of motor traffic. McKillop's soil is fertile and fairly level and its rolling and hilly sections provide an excellent supply of first quality gravel. The township is well watered by a branch of the Maitland River, as well as two small streams - Silver Creek at Seaforth and the Carronbrook at Dublin, which join the Bayfield River.

Before the heavy influx of people around 1845 there were only 321 people in the entire township. Seven years later there were 884, and by 1860 there were 2, 425. Of a total acreage of 39, 322 acres, more than 10, 000 acres had been cleared by 1860, and under cultivation. The value of the farms was estimated at over half a million. At first the major crops were wheat, followed by potatoes, turnips, peas and hay. Within fifteen years of its being set up as a separate municipal unit, seventeen of its citizens kept carriages for pleasure.

The first tavern in the township was at Carronbrook (Dublin) and is now known as Huron Hotel and is the only hotel in the township in operation.

According to the Postmaster-General's Department, the very earliest post office was at Roxboro. It is not known how long it served as such, as one of the earliest post offices to serve the area was in Harpurhey. A Mrs. Jamieson operated a small hotel in the early life of Roxboro with at least seven in the township at one time - some known as hotels, others as taverns.

Winthrop, five miles north of Seaforth on the north gravel road had a post office in 1868 with Alex Murchie being its first postmaster. This small village was actually developed by Andrew Govenlock and other members of his family who had settled in the area in 1834. The Govenlock family operated both large grist and sawmills which were steam powered. In addition there was a cheese factory, a Dominion Telegraph office, a church, a school (No. 10) and another store or two, a blacksmith shop and a hotel. Other early families in Winthrop were John Brown, who came in 1837, and John Bullard and John McIntosh, who arrived a year later.

A few miles farther north was Leadbury, which became a post office on June 1, 1877, with Charles Davis as first postmaster. Apparently he owned everything else in the settlement as well, including a store and hotel. He was a native of Leadbury, England and carried on an extensive export of horses and cattle to Europe.

Also in 1877 a post office was established at Beechwood, John Reedy being the first postmaster and it served the Irish settlement in the Dublin - St. Columban area.

In the early 1840's, children in the vicinity of what is now Seaforth, had to walk through the woods to a log school - Union School Section No. 1 and a little later to another in McKillop No. 2 where Maitlandbank Cemetery is now.

In 1871, McKillop's acreage was given as 53,422, but when Seaforth was incorporated as a town, this was reduced to 53,000 acres.

The numbering of the school sections in the

township gives some insight into the way in which the township was settled.

The timber the pioneers cut was first growth and became harder and harder with age In the homes of yesteryear there is a heritage it meant a lot to the men who built them. Everything in it was his his timbers, his beams and boards, his labor and skill, to hew and fashion a home that would stand forever on his land for his children and their descendants. The old house is too strong to die The logs, timber and lumber made from the cutting down of the forest to make a clearing for buildings and the sowing of grain, were used for wooden fences These rail fences were easily constructed and there were miles of them - post and rail, zigzag snake or worm fences, stake and rail, cross and rail with many variations. In 1883 it is said they were worth $325.00 a mile. It was also said that at least one-tenth of an early farmer's forest went into his fences. The virgin forest land became the rich cleared land that grew the crops and fed and pastured his animals. The forest made the fence to contain the cattle and sheep, to protect the crops, to hold the farm in and the forest out.

There were also stone wall fences - as the farmers cleared the land of stones they often built fences with them. And there were stump fences - the stumps being too green to burn they would dry out in time piled up in this way.

It is believed that the very early settlers brought seedlings with them, so they would have apples and other fruits in due time. The Indians taught our forefathers how to grow corn, make meal and how to use it. They are also supposed to have taught them how to make maple syrup and sugar

Various herbs were grown and the knowledge and use of them is as old as mankind itself. Herbs were used for healing and cooking. To the pioneer wife the wise gathering of herbs was vital it might well mean

her child's life. She had no other medicine - they had the power to cure and heal.

To the farmer, seeds were as important as the crop. Loss of crops before seed time could be a calamity for he could not order seeds or go out and buy them as farmers can to-day. Droughts, floods or great storms have been known to cause the wholesale abandonment of farms. Everything on a farm had a value - nothing was discarded. Seeds weren't just saved - they were stored. It is said that if a man had no seed he would gladly give a piece of land or even a cow for some. When a pioneer set out for a new country with a dream of his own cabin and clearing, he took with him his gun, axe and seeds. He was a man who could cut his timber, saw it and season it; he could build a house, a barn, a scoot, a barrow or a wooden pipe. He could cut posts, split rails, make fences, build walls, dig wells. He was sower and reaper, cattleman, dairyman, shearer, shepherd, veterinarian and butcher. His wife was a cook, laundry and chambermaid, a weaver of cloth from the wool of the sheep; she was a nurse and doctor combined; she was the heart of the home.

But it was not all hard work and no play. They had fun smoking hams, making maple sugar and syrup, and cider- even champagne cider and apple jack, fowl-plucking bees, quilting bees, preparing apples for drying, barn raisings which usually ended in a big barn dance. In those days neighbors took time to be neighborly and helpful to one another.

There was also friendly rivalry to see who could grow the tallest grain; grow sheep that had the longest wool, raise hens that could produce the largest eggs and the farmer loved to boast that his thresher could outdo any other. Of course, long before the crudest of threshing machines there was the sickle, the cradle and the flail. These were as important to the farmer as the wheel and the axe.

How proud the farmers were in their shining

new buggies with a whip in the holder, and in the winter, in their sleighs and cutters with high stepping horses and plenty of bells as they drove to and from church. There is yet no sound that can compare to that of sleigh or cutter bells echoing through the air as the horses' feet crunched through the frosty snow How cosy it was under the buffalo robe, a fur hat on the head and quite likely a crockery "pig" foot warmer at their feet. Grandpa with his snow white whiskers streaming in the breeze looked so proud and happy.

Medical care was practically non-existant in the very early times Doctors and medicines were scarce and there weren't any hospitals. Home remedies were used and although perhaps good to a certain extent, there were many untimely deaths, especially from communicable diseases such as diphtheria, small pox, typhoid and scarlet fever and consumpton (T. B.) There were also illnesses classed as inflammation of the lungs or bowels with quite often the wrong home treatment given.

Gradually more doctors came into the newly settled areas; boards of health with sanitary inspectors were set up, and with proper care and treatment these diseases were gradually curbed. As living conditions too, improved, health improved.

This generation has what appears to be all that it is possible to have - what a difference to what our ancestors had 150 - even 50 years ago! But do we have the happiness, the peace and the contentment they had?

Now that almost a century and a half had passed since our first ancestors came to this community and their stories have been recorded, think of the future and ask, "What can my contribution and those of my children be toward making an even better record of achievement in the next century? Will it be one that generations still unborn can look back on as proudly as we can? It is up to each and everyone of us to see that such a record of performance is made.

First Settlers in Roxboro

As early as 1825, 142 years ago, there was agitation in the Mother Land in respect to the settlement of the British possessions in North America. At the same time there was a near-famine in parts of the Old Country A condition also existed there close to serfdom under which land was purchased on a long-term basis, at the end of which time the owner was not given a clear deed of title, but rather the land would pass to heirs of the lords or barons.

About the same time in this area, 1827, a road had been surveyed through the dense wilderness. The next year, 1828, a trail was cut through from Guelph to Goderich.

The wonderful resources of this new country in respect to its lands, forests, mines, fishing and hunting grounds became known to people of different nationalities, creeds and professions. As a result many emigrated to this land of freedom. The year 1820 is generally regarded as that in which John Galt became directly connected with what is now Canada and was asked to examine the natural resources of Upper Canada-now Ontario. Galt discovered that there were vast tracts of land that had been set aside as crown and clergy reserves and it occurred to him that the sale of the crown reserves would provide a fund large enough to

meet claims which were being made and many other civil expenses of the province He devoted much of his time making his scheme acceptable to the British government. The next move was to find a sale for these lands not to settlers individually, but through a company. Such a company was formed in 1824 - known as the Canada Company. Some of its members including Galt set sail for New York in 1825. The company was finally incorporated by the British Government in 1826 after complicated and troublesome negotiations under which the company was to purchase 1, 384, 413 acres at three shillings, six pence per acre, in the Huron Tract. Not altogether the way John Galt had planned it, he became the father of the Huron Tract and the founder of Huron County.

Another who participated in the development of this area was Dr. William "Tiger" Dunlop and it was Colonel Anthony Van Egmond who engineered the construction of the Huron Tract, now No 8 Highway. John MacDonald was the surveyor and architect.

The trail was later made into a proper road for forty-five and one-half miles east of Goderich, twenty feet wide.

Five years after the road was put through a census showed that there were still only 385 men, women and children in the area. But a year later there were 1, 168 inhabitants, almost double in a single year. Four years after that, in 1842, the population was 7, 190.

Among those early emigrants, in the year 1833 were Robert Scott, his son Robert, and Archibald Dickson and his son James They found their way along the Huron Tract and about twenty miles east of Goderich they turned north through the dense bushland until they came to the Menestung River (Indian for Maitland) John Govenlock had wished to come with them but remained in Scotland until 1834 to arrange for the journey and escort the families.

These emigrants came from Jedburg, Roxboroughshire, Scotland. The crossing of the ocean in those days was a great adventure, which was described as being as hazardous and rare as an aeroplane excursion of the 1920's. They had decided to reach what was known as the Huron Tract, which derived its name from that possessed by a tribe of Indians who inhabited it.

The Scott-Dickson worldly possession is said to have been two "kists' chests and on reaching Hamilton they came the rest of the way by ox-cart or wagon. They spent the first night in the open with a vast wilderness and an ocean between them and their loved ones in Scotland. While sitting on a log near a fire Archibald Dickson asked his son James to open the 'kist' and see if the fiddle is "a'richt." He played piece after piece and the beautiful melodies rose on the air in the midst of the wilderness while tears trickled down his face - something his son had never seen before.

Soon a shanty was erected and between the stumps wheat and potatoes were planted. They made friends with the Indians camped near-by and it is said they taught them how to sustain themselves that first winter. The pioneers didn't know the proper way to fell trees - they chopped around them as a beaver does. One of the men, struck with a falling tree, on getting up said, "I'm goin richt back to Scotland. We ll a'be killed here."

The elder Robert Scott took up approximately 400 acres in the Roxboro area and Archibald Dickson about 300 to the north and east on the opposite side of the Maitland River. Robert Scott was an ancestor of Miss Jean Scott; Gordon Scott, James F., James M and Samuel J , all of whom still live in the district.

About forty in all had come out in 1834 including all the family of Robert Scott but one, the Archibald Dickson family and the John Govenlock family. Robert Scott's first shanty was on a small triangle across from where Harold Agar now resides and just east of the

Gordon Scott driveway. The Scott farms are known as 'Maitland Wells and 'Bankhead and the Dickson's as "Gladswood

Friends of the adventurers Grieve's, Hendersons and Habkirk s, decided to accompany them in 1834 and settled on lands close by where all could enjoy the companionship of one another as they had done in the old land Each had large families and were intermingled in marriage.

It was hard to leave the homes and scenes of childhood, to embark on a dangerous sea journey, to an unknown land so far away. Even though the wonderful prospects of freedom were mingled with tales of hardship and privation to be endured in converting those forest lands into homes, and the dread of their children of the North American Indians, they faced embarkation bravely The more youthful of the emigrants looked forward to the land of promise but the elderly felt as if they were bidding a last farewell to the land of their birth.

The trip in a large sailing vessel, took eight weeks and one day Cholera was prevalent and more than one died on the way over or shortly after arrival. One was Helen - daughter of John Govenlock and his wife Margaret Scott. The child was buried at Grosse Isle, Quebec, after the boat landed. One vicious storm encountered on the way over caused the group to despair they would ever reach their destination. The terrible strain of the crossing, nursing the little sick daughter through sickness and death, leaving her remains behind in a strange country and the long strain of the trip to Hamilton by boat and from there to Roxboro by wagon, took its toll Mrs. Margaret (Scott) Govenlock enjoyed meeting once again her father and brother but died three days later. She was buried on a plot on her father's farm (Bankhead) on the bank of the Maitland as there was no burying ground set aside as such at that time. That spot is now just back of the large stone house

where the Gordon Scott family lives. Joseph Scott's stone house (son of James) was built in 1838. The Dickson's stone house built in 1851 across the river and bridge at Roxboro is the second on that location and has been occupied from time to time. The deeds received from the Canada Company might never have been clear deeds if it had not been for James Dickson, who brought the matter before Sir John A. MacDonald and parliament.

Following the sad burial of the mother (Mrs. Margaret Scott Dickson), families retired to their respective shanties, which had been erected to provide shelter during the first winter in Canada and until more habitable buildings could be erected. Evidences of the coming of the dreaded winter season were beginning to present themselves and each family became determined to better their living conditions The first was a fireplace which was most important for household needs and for the provision of heat. Some men were more adept at this work than others so they helped one another, and it was not long before each home had a stone fireplace with primitive chimneys.

Furnishings were meagre and adornments few but this meant little to them. They were happy as families. In the evening following the relating of the day's happenings, devotional exercises were engaged in. Retiring for the night they all enjoyed a well earned rest to awaken again at daylight.

Another group came in 1846 - The McMillan , Dodds and Hays families, and an other unrelated Dickson family.

Ten or more years later after his arrival, James Scott, whose land sloped down to the river, saw the possibility of a grist mill run by water power. A dam was built and all proved successful as long as the water level was adequate. Later it was steam operated. After Mr. Scott, an early owner was Alfred Brewer who lived in the brick house on the corner at the Roxboro turn (the house being known as The Mill House). He

sold it to Mulholland, then a Mr. Shantz owned it. In 1879 it was leased by Messrs. Barnett and Dolphin of Seaforth who used it for grist and chopping and in 1880 it was leased by George Pearce, Mitchell. A Mr. Rock operated it at two different periods and finally moved it to Bornholm. Shortly after installing a deisel engine, the mill burned down.

While at Roxboro the mill served people for fifty miles around, operating day and night, and it was nothing to see fourteen or more team of oxen there at one time for grist.

While dredging operations for the foundation of the present bridge were in progress, workmen unearthed an old bearing from a mill water wheel. It was identified by Joseph Scott as being from the mill built by his father about 1850. It was made of South American iron-wood and is now at the County Museum, Goderich.

Around that time there was at least one hotel in the settlement, a blacksmith shop, a cabinet shop, a wagon shop, a weaver and a general store.

That era is but a memory to-day but it is still a beauty spot.

Municipal History

The first organization in McKillop for municipal purposes took place in 1842 in connection with the townships of Hibbert and Logan, now in Perth County.

An extract from the first municipal meeting reads - "McKillop, Jan. 2, 1843 — In the house of William Lee, Lot 19, Con 1 - the inhabitants of the townships of McKillop, Hibbert and Logan, agreeable to the Act and a warrant signed by Archibald Dickson and William Chalk, esquires, two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace. The meeting having proceeded called Alex Cameron to the chair, and John Govenlock, having been proposed and seconded as township clerk for the current year; and Adolphus Meyer, having also been proposed and seconded for clerk, and the votes having been taken for each, it was found that John Govenlock was duly elected for the ensuing year." The same minutes show that the above meeting elected Matthew Ward of Logan, Assessor; Dennis Downie, tax collector and James Grieve, John Laidlaw and Alex Cameron, township wardens (councillors).

Among those whose names we see in connection with various offices for that year were : John Croil, John Bulger, Henry O'Neill, James Cluff, Wm Habkirk, Robert Scott, S Meyer, John Kenna, William Cluff, M Cana, Joseph Jenkins, Patrick Carlin, Hugh McCann, Robert and Edward Downie, John Lapslie, Peter McCann,

John Henderson, Alex Wilson, the majority of whom being residents of McKillop, would seem to indicate that this township contained at the time a greater population than the other two.

Logan withdrew in 1844 followed closely by Hibbert but there was always a municipal union with one or more of the following - Hullett, Morris, Grey or Howick until 1856.

In 1850 under the first year of the Municipal Act, councillors elected included - Robert Hays, Dennis Downie, August Van Egmond, John Bingham and Thomas Govenlock (representing McKillop, Hibbert and Hullett)

In 1854, Robert Hays was reeve of McKillop and Grey and the next year was reeve of Howick also - the last year of the union. John O'Sullivan was clerk for both McKillop in Huron and Hibbert in Perth.

For a good many years council had a different meeting place for each meeting - and always at a hotel of which there was at least seven for some time. The following is a sample of a meeting or portion thereof - Oct. 10, 1859 - Proceedings of Municipal Corporation of McKillop, council meeting at Robert Hanna's hotel, Thomas Govenlock, reeve in the chair, and Dennis Downey and Irwin Johnston. 'Moved by Mr. Downey, seconded by Mr. Johnston that in consequence of some alteration having been made in the amount to be levied for county purposes at the last meeting of the county council and by instructions from the county clerk it will be expedient to raise one and one-half cents in the dollar for county purposes and half a cent in the dollar for township purposes on all real and personal property in the township for the current year.' Carried.

William James Shannon, T. Clerk.

In December they met at Meagher's Inn, Carronbrook (Dublin) and in January, 1960 at Jamieson's Inn, Roxboro. An unusual proceeding took place at this meeting. Five councillors had previously been elected or appointed. They were: Thomas Govenlock, Dennis Downey, John

Elliot , John O'Sullivan and Robert Scott. The following motion was made - 'Proposed by D. Downey, seconded by John Elliot that Mr. Thomas Govenlock be reeve for the current year.

The method of the management of the fiscal affairs of McKillop differed materially from the other townships of Huron County - the appropriations for all local public improvements being made in the first place as a whole, and then apportioned between the four wards, the councillor for the respective ward letting all contracts and passing all jobs in his own territory. The treasurer never had a dollar of the township's money in his possession or within his control - the money being deposited in the bank by the tax collector. None could be drawn except on order of reeve and clerk and then only for specific purposes in each of the four wards. This system was used until the beginning of the twentieth century, when they adopted the system used in the other townships.

From its organization to the turn of the century the majority of council's business was the clearing of the roadways, building of roads, fences, bridges and culverts and the establishing of school sections. These sections changed from time to time as roads were built and settlers came in. To this date there are school problems, McKillop being one of the few townships to have retained most of its little one-room schools. John Henderson, chairman of the area board states now (Apr. 1967) that of this September the grade system is to be incorporated and three busses have been ordered. J W. Coulter is the inspector.

Roads were maintained by a system called statute labour - the amount of work each farmer had to do in lieu of taxes being determined by his assessment. The work was done under the watchful eye of a pathmaster or overseer, his 'beat ' being the length of a block - one and one-quarter miles, there being as many as 125 or more as the area was developed. The farm-

ers, some of them, tried to cheat a bit on their work by using wagon boxes that weren't quite the right size. Some of them were in such poor condition that some of the gravel was spilled along the way. As the practice didn't prove too satisfactory it was eventually abandoned and the cost of road upkeep was included in the taxes.

In 1872 a by-law was passed empowering the corporation of the township, their officials or employees, to enter upon any lands in the township to search for and take away any timber, gravel, stone or other material necessary for making or keeping in repair, any road belonging to the township

Farmers, in the early days, had the habit of building their fences as close as possible to the roadways, so as to have as much land as possible for crop or pasture. The early wooden rail or picket fences caused much drifting of snow in winter and as a result the pitch-holes were a hazard. Those who have never ridden in a cutter through pitch-holes have decidedly missed something. In time the farmers moved their fences back and wire fencing became common. Those clearing the road allowances of virgin forest were allowed the wood for their labours, provided the stumps were removed, hillocks levelled down and the clearing of the proper width.

The first record of a Board of Health was in 1873. A Huron County census taken in 1871 shows McKillop had 53,422 acres; 662 houses inhabited; 664 families and population - 3808 males and 1875 females.

The origins of its people were given then as: African, two; English, 316; French, two; German, 289; Irish, 2,104; Scottish, 1084; Swiss, four; others, seven. Birthplaces of the settlers were given as - England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany and France mostly. There were about twenty religions, the majority being Presbyterian, Roman Catholic and Church of England.

In November, 1875, council decided to petition local legislature at its next session for the purpose of

having the township surveyed and roads established. Stone monuments were being used to mark crossroads.

The mill rate was climbing and tax collectors were unpopular Council s road expenditure, teachers' salaries, and the Scott Act were blamed. Under the Scott Act it was said that $10,000 went out from Huron County each year so the loss had to be made up in taxes.

In 1888 after serving as township clerk for 25 years John O'Sullivan was replaced by John C Morrison, who had been tax collector (Mr. O'Sullivan died in 1899). All school sections were reconstructed in 1889 with two schools placed at equal distance apart on each open section so that no ratepayer would be more than two and one-half miles from a school and all school buildings were to be on open travelled roads. In union school sections the buildings were to be left as they were but others were to be moved or rebuilt. The clerk was appointed to go to Toronto for the purpose of securing legislation empowering township council to levy and collect one general rate over the whole township for this purpose. No. 13, Roxboro was established and one on Con. 10-11, No. 8.

In 1890 municipal elections cost $68. County rate was 1.69 mills and township rate, three mills. May 1890 statistics revealed the following - 52,079 acres valued at $1,802,755.; taxable income $1,600; days of statute labor, 3,614; dogs, 306 dog tax, $303; population, 2,839.; cattle 5,387; sheep 2,598; hogs 1,232; horses 1,797; acres under fall wheat, 3,107; appointed pathmasters 118 - one for every six men doing statute labor. There were ten public schools, four union and one separate.

In 1891 each party was allowed one dog tax free with a tax on any number above that. There were 140 miles of roadway including one-half of boundary roads. No hogs, fowl or cows were to run at large and pig stys erected on roadsides were contrary to by-law - the pigs frightened horses.

In 1892 a total of $5,143. was to be raised for

school taxes. An effort was being made to have a House of Refuge built in Huron County.

In 1894, 5000 feet of rock elm was used in bridge building In 1895 the Canada Company still owned 1571 acres in the township but the assessed value was only $20, 100.

In 1896 there were 40, 817 acres of cleared land. Union School Section 12 with Grey was formed. Drains and road clearing in the last section of the township were undertaken in 1899.

In 1900 William J Shannon, former reeve and clerk died The financial condition of the township was so sound the Finance Minister offered a loan of $2, 000. at five per cent.

According to the clerk's report that year, the pasture in McKillop was the best in the county, being capable of pasturing 25 cows to every 100 acres. All wandering milk cows were to be tagged. Those borrowing road scrapers belonging to the township were to be charged ten cents a day until returned or it would be added to the taxes As early as 1901 there was talk of building a township hall.

In 1902 election expenses were $55 and uncollected taxes amounted to $4. 00. Land values were down, in some cases 50 per cent. A Canada Company agent asked council to open the road opposite lot 1, con. 13-14 so he could put a tenant on the land.

Paschal Pigeon's tender for the Winthrop drain was accepted for $2, 214. - there were eight tenders.

Farmers were asked to convert all wooden fences along roads into firewood - use it or sell it and with the proceeds buy wire fencing - thus reducing road expenses and taxes. All fence posts were to be one rod apart.

Taxes receivable in 1903 were $13, 939. 44. Two steel bridges had been built with one more planned. County council asked farmers to use wider tired wagons, suggesting five inch width instead of one and one-half or

two inches, as narrow tires were hard on the road.

Wooden bridges and culverts were rapidly being replaced by cement bridges and steel culverts.

In Feb. 1904 a by-law was passed granting $6000. toward the Guelph - Goderich railway right-of-way as it would be of great advantage to the municipality.

In June, 1904 - the Barron drain was constructed for $3,968., for 20 years at four per cent. Cost of work on roads exclusive of bridges was $820. Weeds, especially Canada thistle were a problem. Threshers travelling on roads were reminded to carry planks to place on bridges and culverts as cleats did considerable damage to wooden bridges.

In 1904 plans made to open McKillop - Grey boundary road The reeve of McKillop and reeve of Hullett were given power to sell trees growing on the townline (boundary) to within six feet of the farm limits.

In January 1905, John C. Morrison, tax collector for many years, died. David Ross, long time treasurer, died in 1906.

In 1907 council petitioned legislature to amend the Municipal Act relieving municipalities from part of the responsibility laid on them on account of non-repair to roads.

Council directed that school teachers be paid quarterly instead of half-yearly. In May 1907, a by-law was passed regulating the erection of telegraph and telephone poles on township roads. Two new schools were to be built S. S. 7 for $2100. and S. S 10 for $2600. A total of 14 1/2 miles of road was to receive aid from the Provincial Government.

Two cement bridges were built in 1909 on Con. 14, both 10 foot, at $240. and $135. by Looby of Dublin.

In 1910 council pledged to complete building road to McNaught. A new steel bridge was to be built at Roxboro - 100 feet long by 14 or 16 feet wide with a cement floor.

In Nov 1911 - The Municipality of Seaforth was

granted the right to sell hydro-electric power to McKillop and were given the right to erect poles for the necessary wire. Owners of timber cut down for road allowance must remove same at their own expense.

In March 1913, engineer's report on Lawrence Drain was read. As no petitioners withdrew, a by-law was drafted to raise funds for construction of McKillop's portion for five years at five per cent.

Total township expenditures in 1913 were $39,094 95 and was felt to be a lot of money to be handled by the treasurer for $80. Total salaries was $910. Spent on roads and bridges, $6,305; schools $9,378, drainage, $1,047; gravel, $698. Value of schools, churches and halls, including lands, was $42,500. Total assessment was $2,253,620. - lands, $1,695,445, buildings, $556,575. and business, $1,500 At end of 1914, balance was $880.

In 1915 John M. Govenlock became the township's third warden.

In Jan. 1917 - death of James Hays, who had served as reeve and warden.

In 1920 a delegation asked County Council to consider the advisability of providing liberal grants for hospital accommodation for the county.

In Dec. 1920 the North Gravel Road was designated as County Road 12 from the north limit of the town of Seaforth northerly to the southern limits of the village of Brussels. County Council petitioned the Minister of Highways to designate county roads as provincial county roads as the situation permitted.

In February 1921 John McNay was appointed clerk after the resignation of Michael Murdie; had served for 16 years - a total of 40 years service in township.

A by-law was passed to be forwarded to Department of Highways petitioning for 20 per cent grant for construction and maintenance of township roads.

In April 1925 - Tender of John Reid accepted for McKillop swamp drain for $13,293. plus branches. In

July, Harry Edge, Seaforth, was given contract to build swamp drain bridge, $595. and Smith bridge, $544. Township sold debentures to a Toronto firm for $15,622. for Swamp drain, for 10 years at 5 1/2 per cent - the largest issue ever floated to date.

Treasurer G K. Holland retires - had been active in township affairs for 50 years. Was succeeded by Bruce Medd.

In 1927, $12,928. was spent on roads and bridges under Highways Municipal Act. Council went on record as opposing Department of Highways keeping No. 8 open during the winter season - too costly for benefit received and detrimental to those who used it as a snow road

F J. McQuaid died in 1928 while serving his ninth year as reeve.

In March 1929 - Thomas E. Hays, the county's first warden died. He had been reeve from 1876 to 1891.

In 1933 - method of selection of Warden changed. Heretofore - by political affiliations, now done in open council.

In the 1930's - the motor age being here - roads were becoming more important and more costly to maintain. An act came into force - those who used the roads should pay for them, so funds were raised from motor vehicle owners - first by license fees and later by gas tax. From these funds counties were subsidized and county roads were becoming more important. County Council favored leaving six inches of snow on highways.

In 1935 the North Gravel Road (Co. Rd. 12) was paved from town limits to first corner north.

In 1937 John M. Eckert became the township's fourth warden

There were no bridges built between 1939 and 1949. In 1945 grants for elementary and secondary education were almost tripled.

A four-wheel drive maintenance grader with snow plow and blade tendered for.

In May 1946, Council asked that McKillop be

included in the Seaforth School Area as established by County Council.

In 1947 Winthrop hall was crowded for nominations and 14 were nominated for offices of reeve and council.

Nomination meetings in the 1940's were lengthy and often "heated" over the high tax rate for snow-plowing costs, school busses and hospital grants.

In Sept 1948 tax rate was set at 7.8 mills for general purposes, an increase of 1.2 mills.

Rate of pay in 1950 was 70 cents per hour per man; $1.00 an hour for man and team, and $5.00 an hour for use of grader. Gravel was 69 cents a yard. Starting that year an extensive bridge building and road improvement program got underway. In 1955 calcium chloride was applied to roads to cut maintenance costs and the next year liquid calcium was applied to 64 miles of road - McKillop being the first township to carry out the program. In 1958 four bridges were replaced, in 1959, three, and in 1960, three more. June 1960 saw the preliminary to a new Grieve's bridge with the road being straightened to eliminate dangerous curves. The existing bridge ran east-west, with the new bridge to be almost due north-south. The road had been taken over previously as a provincial development road and became known as County Road 12.

By 1961 county had taken over road running east-west across township through Winthrop.

In 1960-61 for the first time township owned two graders and laid 20,000 yards of gravel.

On June 5, 1961, William J Manley resigned as road superintendent ending 31 years service. He had overseen the transition from the horse age to a completely mechanized system.

In 1961 George Radford Ltd., Blyth was let the tender to rebuild the road near Grieve's bridge at $5000. - one-fifth mile reconstructed.

A new mower was purchased in 1962 and a cul-

vert on County Road 12, between Winthrop and Walton was replaced as a first step in the reconstruction of the road to a Provincial Highways System. (Paving between Walton and Brussels was almost completed)

County Council road committee was seeking approval of paving boundary road north of Dublin to Brodhagen. In 1963 Kenneth Stewart said he would like to see all jogs in township roads eliminated as had been done at Beechwood. Curves are dangerous motor hazards and add to snow plowing difficulties.

In May, 1963, contract let to George Radford for grading and construction between Seaforth and Walton, cost being covered almost entirely by Province.

Late in 1963 construction was nearing completion at a cost of $325,000. In view of the International Plowing Match to be held in McKillop near Seaforth in 1966 roadwork and all other planning was stepped up with the County and Provincial departments fully cooperating

A new township truck was purchased in 1964. A plan for a park at Grieve's Bridge was rejected by the Mid-Western Ontario Development Association.

In July 1964, the paving of County Road 12 began at Seaforth by Lavis Construction, Ltd., Clinton.

A new grader was bought and value of road machinery owned by township was $16,000

Grieve's bridge which had been built in 1961 was opened to traffic in 1961 and officially opened when the road program was completed. Cost of the bridge was $80,000. built by Huron Highways Department with the Department of Highways contributing $64,000.

Council's attention then was on other township roads especially those in the area of the upcoming plowing match site. Drains are receiving a major portion of the attention as the 1960's near an end.

As a Centennial project the township built a $12,000. municipal building at Winthrop the village that was once the main centre of activity.

Building the Roads

Some of the early road building across Huron County was done by a method known as a "forest railway". It was of logs or crudely trimmed tree lengths laid crosswise with tree stumps used as supports, cut at such heights as to maintain a fairly good level. These were covered with dirt or gravel. When the North Road, No. 8 highway and others were rebuilt over the years, these logs were found buried, and many of them still in good condition.

The first road in the area was the Huron Tract, blazed through in 1828 - now No 8 Highway. The next important road in the area was the Goderich - London R Road - now No. 4 Highway. From Brucefield two branches were constructed - one to Bayfield and Lake Huron; the other through Egmondville - now County Road 3 - up through Seaforth and north to Brussels, Wroxeter and Paisley. John Miller of Morris township was an inspector for the building of the North Gravel Road from Seaforth to Paisley. This road is now known as County Road 12, north, and runs through McKillop from south to north An early mill located in Egmondville was one of the reasons this road was built.

Toll gates every few miles were used as a means of raising money to help pay costs of road up-keep. The tax fee and toll gates were known as 'scourges' Later Huron County bought out the interest of the toll gate

operators on the North Gravel Road and the toll gates were abolished in 1873.

Edward Cash, an early Roxboro pioneer, who had been a weaver in his homeland but undertook homesteading, as his first job underbrushed the road between Roxboro and Harpurhey. He soon ceased farming to operate a store in Harpurhey

John McFadzean, a son Thomas and another son and a Mr. Masher came into the district in 1854 to take up land. They spent their first night on a knoll in the open beside a bonfire. Not long after that the north road was underbrushed to Grieve's bridge by these settlers.

James Dickson, who had moved from Roxboro to Egmondville to operate a store, was a personal friend of Sir John A. MacDonald when the north road to Brussels was built, was instrumental in having it run from Seaforth north instead of from Harpurhey through Roxboro, in spite of great objections by the residents in both places. Seaforth soon outstripped Harpurhey and a railway station was built there. Harpurhey, which had been divided into lots, and Roxboro became ghost towns and the road to Brussels sounded its death knell. (It is said that 40 houses were moved from Harpurhey into Seaforth in one year)

A cairn has been built at Roxboro in honor of the pioneers and located on the site of the old mill once owned and operated by James Scott (father of Joseph, Arch. D and James R.)

A news item dated June 13, 1873, stated that the distance from Seaforth to Wroxeter via North road was 26 miles. The average quantity of gravel wanted for this road was 30 cords to the mile, at a cost of $1950 The opening up of this road brought about rapid development, mills - (saw, grist and flour), taverns, stores, post offices, churches and schools and a tile yard in the little settlements.

In 1873 John Govenlock built a steam-operated

saw mill on north gravel road, 1 1/4 miles south of the second toll gate Logs were already laid for next summer s operations. The new mill started operations the following May with all kinds of hard and soft lumber on hand.

In April, 1874, Andrew Govenlock announced plans to build a grist mill at Winthrop during the summer, to be called Victoria Mill. John Govenlock also indicated plans to build a grist and flour mill on Con. 10 adjoining his steam saw mill, using machinery already purchased When completed the value of the mill was $10, 000. and it was fitted with three runs of stones. The mill opened in October 1874.

In April, 1875, Andrew Govenlock opened a general store at his mills A workman, Andrew Calder, was caught in a windlass while unloading logs and was badly injured.

In March, 1874, a petition was forwarded to Mr. Horton, M P. for presentation to the Postmaster General, asking for the establishment of a post office at Davis' Corners, on the north gravel road at corner of Con 4-5. It was considered to be a great convenience on mail route between Seaforth and Brussels. The Petition was granted and mail was received semi weekly. The first mail was handled there June 5, 1877. Charles Davis was postmaster in building opposite Davis' Hotel.

Stage Coaches were in operation on North Road in 1872, perhaps earlier. At first they carried only mail, and later passengers also.

WANT AD - Stage Driver Wanted - a good steady man to drive mail stage from Seaforth to Walton. Contact James R Ross .

In 1873 - a notice appeared in The Huron Expositor - 'Change in Stage Proprietor Messrs. Davidson and Campbell of Commercial Hotel, Seaforth, and Thos Bell have purchased from Mr Ross of Seaforth, his stage business . Later it was operated by Mr. Bell only.

Apparently there had been two stage coach lines and, as a result, fare had been kept to 'a ruinously low figure', a trip very often not amounting to enough to pay actual expenses let alone wear and tear on horses and vehicles. Now under one ownership, he promised to keep fare at a reasonable figure.

In 1873 Bell sold to Armstrong, a former owner who carried both mail and passengers In 1874, a wheel came off the coach but the driver kept control. That December, 1 1/4 miles north of Seaforth, a bolt came out of the end of the tongue, the sleigh slid around throwing passengers and mail out - no one was hurt. The horses got loose and were stopped in front of the Commercial Hotel when they ran into a pump and knocked it over.

Sam Carter, father of Mrs. James Riley, North Main St., drove a stage coach for a number of years when it was owned by Walter Lowery.

As settlers took up farm lands, roads were cleared with the farmer usually getting the wood for his labor. There was a stipulation that all stumps be removed and the road levelled. One of the early settlers Dr. T. T Coleman was allowed the timber on Con. 8 -9, lot 31-35, provided he grub the road 16 feet wide in the centre of a swamp and clear the whole road.

The second bridge at Roxboro was built in 1872-73, the first one having been swept away by spring floods, and a third one in 1895 costing $802, just one-half what the previous one cost. The present bridge, built in 1953, cost $24, 387. with the township supplying cement and steel.

Year after year the various councils were faced with road and drainage problems, the earlier roads, culverts and bridges not being constructed to cope with increased travel by cars, trucks and heavy machinery.

In 1904, $820. was spent on township roads exclusive of bridges. Threshers were reminded to carry planks to lay on bridges when they were being crossed.

Churches and Cemeteries

Following the erection of homes, many being log houses and others nothing more than lean-to's - the heads of families were concerned about their children's educational needs and places of worship for all.

In 1867 education didn't appear to be a cheerful process The poems and stories in the readers were usually sad and gruesome, which to-day wouldn't have much appeal. In that year education was in the midst of being transformed from its haphazard pioneer beginnings to tax-supported organized provincial systems. Many resented the tax system, calling it an excuse to get them to pay for the education of other people's children.

In 1871 the new School Act required every parent or guardian to send all children between the ages of seven and twelve to school at least four months in the year. It was said that parents were beginning to realize that an educated man was worth more as a farmer or mechanic, not to mention professions, than an uneducated man.

The early Seaforth Expositor and Huron Advertiser reported that in 1871 only three schoolhouses - numbers 2, 4 and 6 were worth anything. Fifty pupils was thought to be a good average for one teacher to instruct and control and for that number of pupils, $400. would be a suitable average salary.

Teacher licensing had begun, though standards and training were at a shaky minimum. School enrol-

ment was doubling and tripling but attendance often depended on what there was to do at home or elsewhere.

Schools themselves were improving. Frame and brick were replacing log buildings but ink still froze in the inkwell in winter. Benches that ran the length of the room or that seated pupils two by two, were replacing backless benches. A century ago or even later than that, in rural communities, the equipment included a box stove, a box of sand for blotting ink, a bucket and tin dipper for drinking water, and a birch rod about four feet long and thick as a man's thumb.

Education was mostly by memorization with the birch rod probably an effective memory aid. Emphasis was placed on the glories of other lands. Gradually this all changed due mostly to Rev. Egerton Ryerson, D D., who in 1844 became chief superintendent of education for Upper Canada. Normal and Model Schools for the training of teachers were built and the 1879 Atlas states, 'The Education of Huron County changed from chaos to symmetry

By 1847 there were three schools in McKillop and Hibbert (then united)

In the early life of the community homes served as meeting places for worship and Bible study. As the population increased and schools were built, the schoolroom served adequately until financial conditions improved. The first Presbyterian Church that served the area was in Harpurhey. Some went as far as Brucefield to attend the church of their upbringing; others went to Egmondville.

Another early church in the township was a Bible Christian Church which is believed to have been moved into Seaforth and is part of the Brugger home on James Street. In a Dec. 29, 1878 issue of the Huron Expositor mention is made of a Disciple Church, lot 15, con. 5. Also referring to an Episcopal Methodist Church on con. 12 built in 1877, it was stated that this church was open to any clergyman who wished to conduct services.

A group who met for a few years (1856-59) in the James Sparling home, built a church in 1859 on con. two on land owned now by Francis Coleman (between his residence and those of John M. and Conrad Eckert's), opposite the present cemetery. Joined with the Clinton Circuit, it became an independent charge in 1864 and a Methodist Church was built in town (now Northside United).

The first Methodist cemetery was opened on con 2 on the same plot as the church and was known as Maitland Cemetery. After the new one opened, most of the bodies were lifted and interred there. Later the few remaining markers were removed and the plot was plowed over.

It is not exactly known how many little churches served the spiritual needs of the early settlers, and now the churches that have served well for decades, are being disbanded; sold and removed to be used for various purposes.

In looking over notes it shows there was a Canada Methodist Church, known as Curry's, one and one-quarter mile east of Winthrop as early as Oct. 1, 1876. Two ministers were Rev. Charles Lavell, M. A. and a Rev Beaugh.

There is also a note referring to a tea meeting for the Methodist Episcopal Church held in S S 9. It was crowded. William Bell was chairman. Speakers included Messrs. Allan, Angus and Dennis, also Rev. Thompson, Pritchard, Griffin and a choir from Brussels contributed musical numbers. This was in March 1877.

In 1872 Canada Presbyterian Church services were held at S. S. No. 2.

A notice dated Jan. 24, 1873 indicated that there was a proposal to build a Wesleyan Methodist Church, one and one-half miles south of Walton on North Gravel Road at con. 14. The congregation at that time was united with Brussels.

ST. COLUMBAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

The first church and school built in McKillop were those at "Irishtown" (St. Columban) between Seaforth and Dublin on the north side of what is now No. 8 Highway. Both were Roman Catholic. The first public masses in the community were said in a tavern, lot 29, con. 1, Hibbert township and in Dennis Downey's home. Rev. J B Werreat (or Rev. J L Wiriath) an Alsation was the first missionary who came to this district as early as 1833 -'34 or -'35. He ministered to those of his faith from Berlin (Kitchener - Waterloo) to Goderich.

From 1837 to 1842 Rev. Thomas Gibney of Guelph visited the mission periodically and preached in the settler's homes until their first church - a small log building - was built on the McKillop side about 1858, on lot 9, con. 1, on land donated by Mr. Downey.

The first church records kept by Rev. Peter Schneider, were dated Jan 21, 1849. Trips by priests were first made on foot, later by horse.

An imposing white brick structure was built before 1879 on the same site under the guidance of Rev. Schneider, who also had churches in Goderich and Stratford He was assisted by Fr Griffin until 1865, who was followed by Rev. Dean James Murphy. Rev. Schneider had previously been a doctor, so often ministered to their physicial needs as well as the spiritual, and was known as 'The Apostle of the Huron Tract'.

The first church bell rang out on Christmas Day, 1858, with Michael O'Connor being the first bell ringer. A room was set aside in the church for the accommodation of visiting priests. It is said that Fr. Schneider rode a white horse, and it is also told that at Christmas three masses were said by Fr. Schneider, starting at midnight in Stratford, then at Irishtown, then on to Goderich.

Rev. Murphy in the brief period he was at St. Columban, founded and built churches in Seaforth,

Wingham, Blyth, Brussels, Zurich and Drysdale, also additions to the St. Columban Church. Fr. Murphy died in 1900.

This same year the St. Columban parish was divided when a church was built at Dublin. This fine church of French Renaissance style of architecture with a 75-foot spire was burned down July 15, 1909. It was considered to be one of the handsomest church edifices in the province. Lightning was supposed to have been the cause. The present brick building was built on the same site by his successor, Rev. Albert McKeon. James S. Russell of Stratford was the architect. Besides having a thousand dollar mortgage on the white brick church, he had the new church free of debt at the time of its dedication in 1911, May 25. About six months later he died while on a trip to London.

Rev. F. P. White then became pastor until 1923, except for the time he spent overseas during the First World War when Rev. Fr. Burke took his place. Since then the pastors have been Rev. J. I. Dantzer, Rev. Francis O'Rourke, and assistants Frs. Fitzpatrick and Powell; then Francis O'Drowski followed by Rev. John J. McCowell, Rev. L. J. Coughlin and in 1967 Rt. Rev. J. J. White.

A windstorm in 1949 did considerable damage to the stained glass windows and part of the horse sheds were blown down. As by this time cars were mainly the means of transportation, the sheds were sold or wrecked.

In 1866 Thomas Carlin sold three acres at the back of the lot on the southeast corner for $150. to the church to be used as a cemetery which is still in use. In the 1870's bodies from the old burying ground at the back of the church were lifted and interred in the new lot.

When the last church was built it was no longer called "Irishtown" but changed to St. Columban and when a post office was about to be built the resident priest at that time thought 'Irishtown' wasn't a suitable name -

the name of the settlement was changed so as to be the same as the church.

Reading in notes it is reported that a new parochial residence was built at Irishtown. It was a splendid structure heated by steam. This was in Feb. 1882.

Death of a Pioneer - The angel of death called at the Convent of Sisters of St. Joseph, London, and carried away one of the oldest residents of McKillop, in the person of Mrs. Michael Maddigan, whose death took place October 28th, 1922, at the age of 88 years. Mrs. Maddigan came to this country in June, 1834, from Tipperary, Ireland, when six months old, with her mother and two older sisters. They landed in London, from where they walked to Harpurhey. Dr. Cholk then got a team and had them sent on to Irishtown, where Dinnie Dorsey, her mother's brother, lived. They afterwards joined her father who had come out some time before, at the Welland Canal, where he found employment for three years. After three years they moved to McKillop, where her father died. She then married Michael Maddigan, who lived near Beechwood. She lived on the farm for twenty years, where many new settlers found a home until they had time to build a shanty for themselves. She was always ready to give a helping hand to anyone in need, it made no difference of what creed She had as many non-Catholic friends as Catholic and never tired singing their praises, particularly the McIntoshes and Calders, who were close neighbors in her early days There were no roads at this time in McKillop, only blazed trees to mark the way. There was no school and not children enough to get a grant or permission to build one. There were only eleven families, so the eleven men signed up as pupils to get a school, after which there was school three days a week and three months a year, the teacher being a Mr. Low. The school was a log shanty where the present school stands to-day. It was then the Lee

farm, one and one-half miles east of Seaforth Seaforth then had only one shanty and a finger board on the corner to direct the way to Goderich. Mrs. Madigan lived in Seaforth for twenty years, where her husband died. She then moved to Dublin to live with her sister, Mrs John Maddigan, and her niece, Mrs. Peter Evans, where she lived for twenty-two years. Then feeling old age coming on and not being able to attend to her religious duties as she wished to, she went to the Sisters of St Joseph, where she could go to mass every day, if she desired, and lived there for nearly two years and she made many friends. Her kind cheerful disposition kept her up till five weeks ago, when she got too weak to go about any longer, and gradually failed till death relieved her on Saturday, October 28th. She died fully reconciled, and had the pleasure of receiving all the last rites of the church. Surrounded with kind Sisters and friends, she hoped and prayed for the end, which came so peacefully to her.

Her remains were taken to Dublin to the home of Mrs. John Maddigan. The funeral was held on Monday morning and was very largely attended, Mass being said by Rev Father McCardle. The pallbearers were her six nephews, James Shea, John Shea, John Evans, Joe Evans, Frank Evans and John Flynn. The remains were taken to Seaforth and laid to rest beside those of her husband in St James' Cemetery. She leaves one sister, Mrs. John Maddigan, and several nieces and nephews to mourn her loss.

PROVIDENCE CHURCH

Providence Wesleyan - Methodist Church was built May 21, 1855, on land donated by the late Barnet Bolton and his first wife, Ann The land, lot 15, con. 8, is now owned by Harold Bolton. The church was built on the north west corner of the farm and had a cemetery in connection with it. Some of the old tomb stones mark

the place.

The first trustees were Robert Armstrong, George Lowe, James Miskimmings, Barnet Bolton, Hyman Tyerman, William and Isaac Currie. The document was signed and sealed by John Haugh and James Sparling.

The new Providence Church was built on lot 20, con 9 on the southwest corner of the farm now owned by Oliver Pryce. Some of the families who attended were: Hanna's, Trewartha's, Lawrence's, Hart's, Campbell's, Morrison's, Pryce's, Bolton's and Horney's.

Providence Church continued until 1919, then it was sold by public auction.

SMITH CHURCH - BAPTIST

The Church was built by Samuel Smith on his own farm, lot 15, con. 9 - now the Louis Bolton farm Mr. Smith was a lay preacher, of the Baptist faith. It was built about 100 years ago, with neighbors assisting.

When Mr. Smith moved to Seaforth in 1903, Loyal Orange Lodge No. 813, Winthrop, it was moved to lot 20, con. 8 - the Jim Henry Campbell farm, now owned by Robert Regele. When the lodge disbanded in July, 1926, it was bought by Samuel Smith s son, James S., and moved to lot 17, con. 11 to keep it in the family. It has since been used as an implement shed since by Gilbert Smith.

DUFF S CHURCH - McKillop

Church services were first held in S S 4. The first baptism was Jamet Reid Kerr, Nov. 5, 1865, the daughter of Alex Kerr and his wife, Helen Lapslie. The first session meeting was in the school, Jan. 30, 1866 with Mr. and Mrs. Peter McNaughton, Finlay Ross, Mrs Barron, William Walker, Mrs. John Cowan, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scott, Rev. Wm. Graham and Messrs. Walker and McCullough present.

The church was built in 1869-70, lot 21, con 5, by the pioneers of the district and Rev. A McDairmid became the first minister. (He was a great uncle of Mrs Jas. Aitcheson, now of Seaforth) At a session meeting, March 6, 1872, records show that the session was opposed to the introduction of instramental music in the solemn worship of God as entirely in opposition to the spirit of the New Testament, and contrary to the general practice of Presbyterian Churches.

Rev. Bethune served for a brief period followed in 1874 by Thomas Thomson, a student minister. A petition with 152 signatures was presented to the Presbytery asking that Mr. Thomson be allowed to continue. He was ordained as minister in 1874.

In July 1875, a request by 23 members and 21 adherents of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in the vicinity of Winthrop asked the Presbytery to take steps to organize them into a congregation in connection with Duff's - authorization was given. In 1877 Rev. Peter Musgrave was inducted following Rev. Pritchard. Elders ordained in 1875 were: James Hillen, Robert Calder and Daniel Campbell. In 1895 an organ was installed, assisted financially by the Ladies' Aid.

Other ministers who served were: Rev. David Carswell, 1903 - 1919 several improvements made and church cleared of debt; Rev. J. A Ferguson, retiring in 1927 because of ill-health; Church Union came into effect; Rev. W F Smith, 1927-1933, Rev. G E. Morrow, 1933-37; Rev. R. W. Craw for next four years, manse was sold in 1947 and a new manse was bought in Winthrop; Rev. W J Patton stayed until 1947. Hydro was installed in 1945. Rev. J. R Peters, due to ill-health, was assisted by Rev. Downs of Exeter and Rev. Elford Rev H. E Livingstone, 1951 - 54 - considerable improvement carried out by Ladies Aid in 1951 and the 80 by 18 foot church shed was sold to R. M Scott for $500. The next year the church grounds were enlarged and considerable improvement made to the church.

In July 1952, the first wedding was performed in the church when Muriel Esther Campbell became the bride of Walter McClure. The bride was presented with a white Bible, and the wedding dinner was served in the church's basement.

Rev J R Holden, 1955 - 56. Considerable improvements made - roof reshingled and cupboards built in basement. Rev. W H Summerell 1957 - 1960. Session in 1958 was Finlay McKercher, Robert Campbell, Alec Smith, Gordon Papple, George Wheatley, George Campbell and Kenneth Stewart.

Considerable improvements again in 1958 - cook stove and furnace installed.

Rev. J C. Britton of Northside, Seaforth, assisted with the closing and disbanding of the church in 1962. Bethel Church also disbanded. Cavan Church, Winthrop and Northside, Seaforth, absorbed the congregations The two communion trays were given to these churches and Miss Helen McKercher purchased the old communion set for $25. The Women of the Church retained some articles and the church was sold by public auction to G Arnold Campbell for $400. He also purchased the land from the owner, Miss Elizabeth Henderson

By mutual agreement the balance of funds on hand, $2026.80 was donated to the Maitlandbank Cemetery Board to be used for the erection of new gates (and fence) with the stipulation that a suitable plaque be erected on the gates to commemorate the pioneers of Duff's Church, and that a minimum of $1000. be put in trust toward a memorial chapel in the cemetery.

The pulpit, chair and baptismal font were presented to the Huron County Museum, Goderich.

Duff s Church became history in December, 1963.

EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

The Emanuel Church was established in 1870 on lot 34, con 8, in Logan Township, Perth County, the first members of the board being, Christian Regele, secretary; Gottleib Koehler, treasurer and H. Hoegy, trustee. Mr. Hoegy was advisor of the building committee also. A 20 by 28 foot parsonage was built starting Oct. 6, 1876. The trustees were given permission to spend up to $4.99, but if repairs exceeded that amount the consent of the congregation was necessary. Every family was bound to contribute one-half cord of wood sawed into two and one-half foot lengths. It is interesting to note that in 1882, the yearly expense of operating the church was 66 cents per family. At the annual meeting the members decided to give communion wine free to elderly and poor people of the congregation. In 1885, the caretaker was paid $2.50 for making fires every Saturday.

In 1887 the church was burned and Zion Church was built on lot 2, con. 8, McKillop. Each family contributed $25.00 and the balance was raised by notes. The church was dedicated in 1889.

In 1895 the board divided the congregation into "classes", to pay according to their means from $1.60 to 50 cents - toward the general expenses. In 1906 it was recorded that the organist received $5.00. In 1937 the organ was replaced with a new piano.

Hydro was installed in 1954 and three years later a new front entrance added. The cement steps and wrought iron railing added much to the church's appearance. The interior of the church proper was remodelled with new pews installed and carpet laid. The communion table and pulpit were donated. An oil space heater replaced the old wood stove. Special services were held to dedicate newly installed electric lights, by Bishop Showers of Indianapolis, Ind. It was the first time a Bishop of the Conference had visited the congregation.

During the same year the Women's Association was formed.

After weeks of remodelling,four special church services were held on Nov. 3, 1957. The church was dedicated by Rev. W. F. Krotz, C S of Dashwood. Friends were present from Stratford, Kitchener, Zurich, Seaforth, Mitchell, Sebringville, Brodhagen and district. The church was crowded. Soloist was Lloyd Amacher of London. In the evening Rev. V Dahms of Sebringville spoke and a male chorus from Zurich added to the occasion. Mrs. Rhine Kahle of Mitchell was guest pianist.

In 1960 the adjoining cemetery was enlarged and improved. During 1964 the ceiling was lowered and tiled; the entire interior redecorated and exterior freshly painted. During this Centennial Year, plans include the installation of stained glass windows.

Over the years this church was associated with Fullarton, Colborne, Rostock, Listowel, Sebringville and Zurich E. U. B. Churches. The ministers were: Revs. C. A. Thomas, Holtzman, Dippel, M. Maurer, Schwandt, Kraft, Fred Maier, J. C. Morlock, D. Kreb, E. Becker, John Stabler, Nasch, Roppel, E. Gischler, Haist, Graf, E. Eby, O. Hallman, Campbell, Schmidt, Gross (13 years), F. B. Meyer, Liebold, Lederman, Brox, Amacher and Shatto.

CAVAN CHURCH, WINTHROP

In July, 1875, a petition for the organization of this congregation was presented to the Presbytery of Huron by a number of members and adherents of surrounding churches in vicinity of Winthrop. The request was granted on August 10, and Rev. T G Thompson, then pastor at Duff's, McKillop, was instructed to form a congregation. For a time services were conducted in Andrew Govenlock's home - until the first frame church was opened in December, 1875 - four months later. Professor Cavan of Knox College, after whom the church

was named, conducted the dedication service.

The present brick building was erected during Rev. David Carswell's pastorate in 1907, the corner-stone being laid in Sept. with dedication Jan. 12, 1908. The building committee was Alex Cuthill, George McKee, Hugh Alexander, Robert Smith, J. G Grieve, Arch. Somerville, Robt. Scarlett, chairman, with Alex Ross, secretary and J. M. Govenlock, treasurer. The cost to build was $3,800. The congregation supplied the brick, gravel, sand, seating and glass bringing total cost to almost $6,000.

The following having served as ministers since 1875: Revs. T G Thompson, Peter Musgrave (26 yrs.), D Carswell, (16 yrs.), J A. Ferguson, John Smith, W. F. Smith, G. E Morrow, W A Craw, W J. Patton, J. R. Peters (C. W. Down and D. A. McMillan supply), H. E. Livingstone, James R. Holden, W H. Summerell and J C Britton.

Members of the first session were: Messrs. James Hillen, Daniel Campbell and Robert Calder, while 75 years later session members were: Calvin Hillen, Wm. Dodds, R K McFarlane, Wm Somerville and Oliver Anderson.

In 1875 Andrew Govenlock was the first Sunday School superintendent serving for 25 years, followed by Thomas Dodds who served for 45 years. In 1950 Wm. Dodds was superintendent assisted by Earle Howley. Ernest Toll was chairman of the board of stewards in 1950.

In Sept. 1900 a Women's Association was formed with Mrs. Musgrave as president. Two of the original members were Mrs. J. M. Govenlock and Mrs. John McClure. Fifteen years later this organization joined with the W. M S with Mrs. Robert Archibald, president.

In 1925 the congregation joined with the United Church of Canada. Mrs. Oliver Anderson was choir leader and organist for many years until her death in

December, 1965.

Leslie McSpadden, a member of the church, entered the ministry and is now ordained. The first musical instrument was a tuning fork and there was no organ until 1895, Miss Nellie Henderson (later Mrs. John McIntosh) being the first organist. The present organist is Mrs. Gordon Pryce.

In Oct. 1907 the old Cavan Church and school, close by, were sold. John McCallum bought the church for $100, James Nicholson the school for $100. and H Ross, the woodshed for $20. Until the new church was built, services were held in Calder's Hall - the Winthrop cheese factory.

In 1953 the Young People's Union led by Mrs. Ernie Toll raised sufficient funds to purchase an electric organ when Mrs. Oliver Anderson was organist.

Members of the Board of Managers were: In 1925 - Wm. Trewartha, John Montgomery, John Shannon, Zack McSpadden, Robert Beattie, Charles Dolmage. In 1936 - Austin Dolmage, R. K. McFarlane, Mrs. H. Blanchard, Mrs. Charles Dolmage, Oliver Anderson, William Somerville, R. T. Bolton, Lorne Elliott. In 1945 - Austin Dolmage, Ernie Toll, Ethel McClure, Thomas Pryce, Stewart Dolmage, James Hogg, Mrs. Robert McClure and Lorne Elliott. In 1955 - Mrs. William Church, S Dolmage, Robert McClure, Mrs. Gilbert Smith, Arthur Alexander, Harvey Dolmage, Lewis Bolton, William Boyd and Mrs O. Anderson.

At the Jubilee Garden Party candles were lit by now the late Mrs. John McClure, then the oldest living president and the cake was cut by Mrs. Calvin Hillen, only living charter member. The ladies of the church donated the ingredients of the cake, which was made by Mrs. R K. and Mrs. David McFarlane.

In 1945, the 70th Anniversary was observed. No account is available of the church's first wedding but in 1944 Helen Irene Brown became the bride of John Gordon McKenzie and their wedding supper was the first served

in the church's basement.

The first Young People's Organization was formed in 1905 as a Guild with Robert Beattie president. When re-organized as a Young People's Society in 1916, Hiram Blanchard was president. Bethel and Duff's joined with them in 1954 with Jim Axtman , president.

The first Mission Band was organized in 1931 led by Mrs. William Dodds.

The church was first heated by two box stoves. Until the early 30's coal oil lamps were used for lighting until hydro was installed. The basement was divided into classrooms in 1955. Water from an overflowing well 145 feet deep, drilled in 1950, was piped from the manse to the church in 1956. A modern washroom for the minister was furnished and the kitchen was modernized. Several memorials were placed in the church over the years - including a plaque, a Baptismal Font and collection plates.

BETHEL CHURCH

Originally a Methodist Church, Bethel Church was built on con. 12 in 1878, and services were held continuously until July 1, 1962. For a number of years it was connected with the Walton and Providence charges. After Church Union, Walton and Providence Churches were closed and Bethel joined with the Duff's and Winthrop circuit.

Before the church was built, Sunday School was held in S. S. 9 with a Mr. Thompson as the first superintendent. Murray Dennis held that office when the church closed.

Mrs William Davidson was the first president of the Laides' Aid and Mrs. David Boyd was hostess for the first meeting. The last president was Mrs. John Burch. The first organist was Miss Mary Pollard and Miss Jean Hillen, the last.

The ministers at Bethel from 1878 were: Revs. Davey, Stafford, Baugh, Fallis, Gee, Sabine, Torrance, Tiffin, Carscallen, Dever, Andrews, Baker (1905), Currie, Tyler, Lackland (1910), Edmonds, Craik, Young, Bentley (1919), Button, Dr. Brown, Robinson, Brown, Ferguson, Smith, Morrow, Craw, Patton, Peters, Livingstone, Holden, Summerell and J. C. Britton.

In 1962, twelve families joined with Walton. The church was sold, moved into Walton where it is used as a hairdressing establishment - Thamer's Beauty Salon.

The money that remained in the U. C. W treasury at this time was donated to the building fund of the new Seaforth Hospital to aid in furnishing a room.

MAITLANDBANK CEMETERY

In Feb. 1874 serious consideration was being given toward establishing a cemetery to serve Seaforth and area. Harpurhey lots were said to be taken up and Egmondville had only seven vacant lots. As the case was urgent it was suggested that a stock company be formed unless the corporation of Seaforth would consider the idea.

In Dec. 1874, a company composed of gentlemen of Seaforth purchased ten acres of land from Thomas E. Hays on con. 3 McKillop for a new cemetery. The land was situated almost opposite the old Maitland burying ground, con. 2.

An item appearing Dec. 1874, in the Seaforth Expositor said - "The ten acre purchase of land from T E. Hays for a burial ground is admirably adapted for the purpose for which it has been purchased. The proprietors intend fitting the ground in first class style and intend laying it out in a manner which will be attractive and convenient. By this movement a want will be supplied which Seaforth has long and urgently felt and the town is certainly indebted to the enterprising gentlemen

who have thus undertaken the scheme of providing for Seaforth a first-class cemetery".

An item appearing in Sept. 1876 states - "The Maitlandbank Cemetery is on the concession road leading to Roxboro - one and three-quarter miles northwest of Seaforth. It consists of eight and one-half acres of land with the fall being more than 20 feet to the river and the drainage is excellent. During the summer of 1876, S Peters, a landscape gardener from London was engaged to cut roads and make walks through it. The sloping bank down to the river gave him visions of what a beauty spot it could be. It has been turned into a beautiful park-like place.

Entering near the west limits of the ground commences a roadway turning quickly to the east, continues in a serpentine course for about two-thirds of the frontage - then winding northward, it descends the ravine to the river level, returning to the point of entrance, making a complete circuit for a drive of more than one-half mile in length. The ground is laid out in sections - A - B and C with walks intersecting each other at right angles, and on the summit of the bank overlooking the river, a wall is made in accordance with the conformation of the surface, while the face of the ravine at the left (front) has been devoted to vault lots, a foot-path through the centre divided it into two ranges, the whole together forming beautiful walks of several miles in extent. Planting is to begin in the spring and be proceeded with as circumstances may dictate .

The cemetery was held by the Seaforth trustees of the Methodist Church in Canada and is intended for a public burying place, for which purpose it was placed by them in the hands of a committee whose instructions were to make the place pleasant and attractive.

Robert Hays is reported to have been the first direct burial in Maitlandbank Cemetery He had owned the farm before selling to his brother, T. E. Hays, from whom the plot was purchased. Two burials made

in 1877 were Mrs. John Shaw and R. P. Rogers. Although many headstones may have earlier dates on them, they were not buried there at the time the dates state but have been removed from earlier burying grounds

The sections are subdivided into lots of six, of 200 superficial feet, and as the features of the ground present considerable variety, all tastes can be gratified. On Sept 25, 1876, an item stated 'that these lots will be placed for sale at an upset price of $10. and desirable location can then be secured'.

In July of that same year an editorial in the local paper read 'The new cemetery which is the property of the Methodist congregation of Seaforth is being fixed up very tastefully. A neat and substantial fence has been erected around it and a nice carriage drive and foot-paths have been constructed. (The fence was described elsewhere as being of wooden picket and outside of that were posts set at intervals with a chain run through the top to which horses were tied). With a few more improvements such as planting of shrubbery and flowers and gravelling of walks, it will be one of the handsomest cemeteries in this section of the country. It is situated within easy reach of town and will be a pleasant place to take a drive to on summer evenings or Sunday afternoons'.

Another item appearing in May, 1877 reads,'The cemetery is a lovely place for strolling, being neatly and tastefully laid out and decorated. Carriages can be driven around the entire grounds and there were gravel walks in various directions'.

Apparently thoughts were, at one time, to lay a sidewalk from the town to the cemetery, and it is written, 'It cannot fail to become a most favorite resort for townspeople in leisure hours'.

Before the advent of the automobile lodges marched in a body to the cemetery, led by the town's band and held memorial and decoration services for their deceased members.

Since the cemetery was laid out in 1876 and until the beginning of this year 1967, 3300 recorded burials have taken place, 1000 being in the original part, representing the pioneers of the district and loved ones of many residents of the municipalities of Seaforth, Mc Killop, Tuckersmith and Hullett, as well as those who had left the district to reside in other areas.

In May 1917, the following - 'The Maitlandbank Cemetery Board has, for the past several years, been limited in its efforts by financial obligations. These are now removed and a further effort is being made to improve and beautify the property, so is employing a competent caretaker - full time, not only to keep it neat but to undertake more extensive and permanent improvements beginning with the part on the west side of the main driveway. They are soliciting the co-operation of plot owners, fraternal societies, other individuals and organizations, to have it put in condition for a lawnmower, and have any damaged or misplaced monuments repaired. For the sum of $1.00 any plot would be mowed if possible, and cared for during the summer months. All monies received as well as the total revenue of cemetery will be spent on labor and material. Also anyone, planning any changes in lots, are asked to first consult the secretary so changes may harmonize with surrounding lots and no one was to permit any individual to contract for care of lots'.

Few people realize the upkeep that is necessary in a cemetery of this size - each time the grass is cut, 50 miles of grass is cut, and that in 1960, the grass was cut 19 times - that distance had to be walked before a power mower was purchased.

Although owned and operated since the beginning by a single church, it is now a common cemetery for all denominations. When its financial condition became serious, and if the present owners had refused to continue, the complete responsibility would have fallen on the township were it is located.

In 1922 the committee in charge was - S. T Holmes, chairman; Fred S. Savauge, secretary-treasurer; Dr. F J. Burrows, Wm. Hartry, Wm. Morrison and J F. Reid. Others who have been connected with its operation are - A. L. Porteous, Herald Lawrence, J. A Westcott, Ross Murdie, Wm. G. Campbell and others. Mrs. E H. Close has been secretary-treasurer since 1961. By raising the rates the cemetery has been self-sustaining.

The first burial in Section D, to the east of the main driveway, was made in 1926, and in Section E, new section at west end, was made in 1953

ST. JAMES CEMETERY, SEAFORTH

On August 12, 1893 St. James Roman Catholic Church, Seaforth, purchased two and one-quarter acres of land for $600. from Edward Devereaux for a cemetery. It is on the southwest corner of the farm on the north (McKillop) side of No. 8 Highway just east of the town limits.

The first burial from St. James' parish was that of John Duncan, 43, of Seaforth on Nov. 18, 1893, by Fr. Joseph Kennedy. Before that all burials took place in Irishtown (St. Columban) cemetery, the first from St. James' Church being Mary Jean Burns, 17, on August 14, 1880 by Fr. P. I. Shea.

A new entrance was built when No. 8 Highway was rebuilt and resurfaced in 1955.

Education in McKillop

S. S. NO. 1 McKILLOP 1907 - 1915

As I sit here alone,
This Centennial Year
With a pen in my hand
And a glass full of beer,
My thoughts go back to
No. 1
Where my school days
finished
And also begun.
The school it still stands
And looks just the same,
To have it demolished
Would be really a shame.
Three years ago
It had to be sold
And sold to the bidder
Who had the most gold.
Louis J. Nolan, who
hasn't yet wed,
Decided twould make
A good implement shed.
So he bought the whole
parcel,
Land, woodshed and all
And it fits to his farm,
Like a barn to the wall.
The first years of my
schooling
The gang was not large
The three Purcell girls,
Mary, Esther and Marg.
Also the Murphy's,
Agnes, Vincent, Jimmy
and Jack,
The last named, was
noted
To always talk back.
This he could do
And think he was right
But always got licked
When it came to a fight.
There were also the
Deitrichs
Who went for awhile
But they moved away
To some other isle.
There were Mary Nigh
(Walsh)

Dennis, Jack, Dick and
Bill
The Lane's could see
coming
As they came over the hill.
Tom Downey and Hughe's
Who lived near the school,
It was Tom who helped us
Break every rule.
There were also the
Flannerys,
Joe, Wes and Eileen
And Florence who helped
To keep the school clean.
There was a large box
stove
That sat on the floor
And a long string of pipes
You see now no more.
A shed full of wood
And a pump near the school,
The places we went
When too hot or too cool.
On cold stormy days
I can tell you 'Brother"
You would freeze on one
side
And toast on the other.
The teacher had troubles
As most teachers do,
To keep us all learning
And keep order too.
I remember Miss Dever-
eaux,
Who Mrs. Dorsey became,
Without much of an effort
Could put us to shame.
Mary Jordan (Dewan)
Took over from there
And some of the time
We got in her hair.
Miss Agnes Stapleton,
Who became Mrs. Kale,
Threatened to put
The whole gang in jail.
Leaving all jokes aside
We weren't really that bad,
Perhaps just the same
As the ordinary lad.
There's one thing I am
Quite happy to say,
Excepting about five
They're all living to-day.
I hope someone else
Will take it from here,
And I'll go back
And finish my beer.

VEE, EEL

U S. S. No 1

This school, situated in McKillop on the north side of No. 8 highway about two miles east of Seaforth, was known as Union S S No. 1, McKillop, Hibbert and Tuckersmith. Pupils from McKillop, Tuckersmith and north-west corner of Hibbert went to school there. It is believed to have been built on land acquired from Bernard

Burns in 1859 or earlier, perhaps even as early as 1847, as deeds often were late in being registered - even never registered. The section was organized by Andrew McKernan, a very early settler and a McKernan was among the first teachers. The first school was log built on the south-east corner of lot 18, con. 1, west of the swamp, William Lee's farm.

In 1872 a site was bought off the south-west corner of the same lot from William Lee and a frame school was built. This was later replaced by a larger frame building and painted dark red. This school was sold by auction in 1965 to Lou Nolan for $500. He is using it for an implement shed.

The first record of a teacher was in 1868 and was Margaret Gill. Frances Givlin was the teacher when the school was closed in 1940.

R. C. S. S. NO. 1 BEECHWOOD SCHOOL

In 1883 a Separate School was built one and one-quarter miles east of Beechwood. It was a frame school and was later bricked. It was known as S. S. No. 1, McKillop. A well was dug and trees planted also at this time.

The pupils attending this school had previously attended public school No. 5, McKillop, located on the west corner of lot 10, con. 6, better known as Moylan's corner.

The first trustees of the Separate School No. 1, were John Malone, John Horan and Jake Braxer. The first teacher, Miss Mary Casey, received a salary of between $250. and $300. a year.

In 1923 a new red brick school was built and the earlier building was sold. The brick was removed from it and it is being used as a shed on the property of Ken Ryan, lot 6, con. 5.

The first trustees of the new brick school were

William O Reilly, Albert Krauskopf and Edward Horan. The enrollment was 60. This red brick school built in 1923 served a community until 1967, at which time the pupils transferred to the newly-opened school at St. Columban, known as R. C S. S No. 2, April 3, 1967. Mrs. Michael B Murray was the teacher when the school closed and now is a teacher at the new school.

R. C. S. S. NO. 2 AREA - ST. COLUMBAN SCHOOL

The first school in St. Columban was built in 1858, on the north side of what is now No. 8 highway, in McKillop township. It was of log construction, 25 by 50 feet. It was later covered with clapboard siding and had a small frame porch entrance. It was still in use in the early 1880's but was moved 40 feet to the west to make room for a white brick school built in 1885. Of one room it was used until June, 1922 or 23. After that time it was used for various purposes including living accommodation for Mark Miles who was caretaker for both the school and church.

A two-room red brick school was built in 1923 across the road in Hibbert township just west of Holland's store, and was known as U S S No. 3, McKillop and Hibbert. Its fate is still not decided.

The St. Columban school was a public (protestant) school until the end of 1901 when it was signed over as a separate school for one dollar. Ann Ward, a teacher who married John B. Capataine, may have been an early teacher.

The first trustees more than 100 years ago were: Stephen Downey, Michael Gubens and Arthur McCann. Dennis Downey was the first secretary-treasurer.

The trustees for the red brick school in Hibbert were James O'Sullivan, Patrick V. McGrath and Frank McQuaid.

In 1868 Rev. Dean Murphy was appointed secretary-treasurer, a position he held until his death in 1899

Frank McQuaid was named his successor.

The first teacher was James De Cantellon followed by Patrick De Cantellon. Other teachers were P. Smith, Miss Harrington, P Somers, S. P Patten, Michael Sullivan, James McGurn, Thomas Melady, E. J. Evans, Pat Ford, Miss Leich, Miss Doherty, Miss Pierce, Miss Killoran, Miss E. Carroll, Margaret Devereaux, Thomas McQuaid, Margaret Daly, Stella Purcell, Elizabeth Holland, O. T Dean, Annie Doyle, Agnes Benn, Catherine Toohey, Nora Gleeson, Marie Sullivan, Sadie Queenan and Joseph Moylan.

The old white school on the McKillop side east of St. Columban Church, was demolished to make room for the new five-room school opened this year (1967) and occupied for the first time on April 3. There are four classrooms, a general purpose room, a supply room and a principal's room, built at a cost of $170,000. complete. Built to accommodate 120 pupils it absorbs S S. No 4, Hibbert, Beechwood and the present two-room red brick school at St. Columban.

Van Bussel Bros., Lucan were the contractors and Horton and Ball, Kitchener, architects.

Present teachers are: Mrs. M B. Murray, principal; Mrs. Marie Melady, Mrs. Helen McLaughlin and Mother Mary Justin, and trustees are - Clarence Maloney, (chairman), Roy Swart, Thomas Murray, Martin Murray and John O'Leary with Auguste Ducharme as secretary-treasurer.

S. S. NO. 2 McKILLOP

The first school serving the Roxboro area was of log construction erected on lot 28, con. 3, about the 1850's on the site where the Maitlandbank Cemetery now is (the Thomas E. Hays farm) and stood just back of where the Cresswell vault is now.

According to the records available, the first teacher was Robert Chisholm, who was considered

excellent. His wife, the former Margaret Dickson on occasion filled in for him Other early teachers were Messrs. Cantelon (or Decantelon) and Dr. Campbell.

About 1857 a brick school was built on a new location - the northwest corner of lot 30, con. 3, on the farm now owned by Peter McCowan. Over 100 pupils attended at that time. These two schools and the present No. 2 school on con. 4 were known as the Roxboro school until S. S. No. 13 at Roxboro was built in 1890.

In 1874 a frame building, S. S. No. 2, was built on a half-acre site, con. 4, on what was the McElroy farm. Cost of the land was $66. and trustees at that time were: Charles Dickson, Charles Dodds and George Dorrance. This was made into a two-roomed school in 1878, with the principal's salary being $500. and the assistant s $250. Due to the large number of pupils, it was known that often older pupils taught some of the juniors in a third room built from the ever-abundant supply of wood blocks used for firewood.

Early in the 1880's John Wilson and George Lockhart, assisted by the Rev. Peter Musgrove conducted Sunday School in this building.

After the Roxboro school was built in 1890, one and one-quarter mile away, no assistant teacher was required.

In 1915, J. L Brown, J. H. Storey and William McClure, had a coal heater installed, costing $26.65 and coal cost $10.50 per ton.

Trustees in 1920 were Messrs. McClure, Rising and McMichael.

The old school was remodelled in 1925 with a 20 by 40 foot section being removed from the south side. A basement was built under the remaining section with a furnace and caustic toilets installed at a cost of $2,819., with T. W McMillan, Wilmore Scott and Joseph McFarlane as trustees. In 1929 an organ was placed in the school.

S. S 13 (Roxboro) joined with S S 2 for a re-

union held on the Thomas Dodds' property, rented at that time by the Seaforth Golf and Country Club. The program was held in a large floored tent with a dance following. Taking part in the program were: Mrs. W. B. McLean, John, Arthur and Anderson Scott, Maggie Scott (Mrs. Millson), Miss Susie Govenlock, Ellie Hays (Mrs. J. M. Govenlock), the Pryce children, Eliza Hays (Mrs. Wm. Fowler), Agnes Scott (Mrs. John Wilson), William Barr Dickson with Earl Van Egmond as accompanist.

A drilled well dug in 1935 cost $346 Music supervisors over the years were: Miss Helen Britton, Douglas Gill, Mrs. Wendorf, Mrs. Phyllis Rogers, Ronald Klink and Mrs. Joanne King - when the school won its first Music Festival Shield.

In 1915 the caretaker was paid $45., in 1957, $250. Teachers' salaries ranged from $600. in 1915 to $2900. in 1957. The music supervisor received $140. and secretary-treasurer $30.

After Robert Chisholm and Dr. Campbell, the succeeding teachers were : John Dickson, Rial McShea, Robert Ferguson (9 years), A. Cowan, 1874; Messrs. McKelvie and Hartley, Matthew Lockhart, W G Duff (10 years), Mr. Holmes, Misses Agnes Scott and Clarissa Hays, Mr. Hislop, George McIntosh, James Dodds, Misses Linda Milne, Isabel Murdie, Ada Beattie and Pearl Anderson; James Dodds, Miss Helen McMillan (1903-07); Miss Rae Govenlock (1907-10); Miss Isabel Anderson (1910 - 12), Irene Pearson, Nettie Shillinglaw, Jean Carswell (1915-19); Agnes McKay, Annie Archibald (1920), Florence Deem, Verna Adams, Elva Staples (Mrs. James Hogg, 1923-25), Olive Medd (Mrs. Edmund Godkin, 1926-29), Foster Fowler, Gwendolyn Snowdon, Louise Mills, Archie Hoggarth (1932-37), Elizabeth Carnochan (1938 - 40); Delphine Bisback, (Mrs. Leslie Dolmage, 1941-43); Clarissa Dale (Mrs. Kenneth Stewart) (1944), Helen Lear (Mrs. G Underwood 1945-46), Mrs. Dorothy Thompson, Mrs. Grace Hoggarth, Ann Brunk (1947-48), Mrs. Grace Hoggarth (2nd. time), Muriel

Campbell (Mrs. W McClure 1951-53); Mrs. Beryl (Harold) Nicholson (1954-56); Mrs. Vera (Nelson) Hood, Thomas Fowler, Elsie Doig (1965-66) and present teacher, Dorothy Keys (Mrs. Mac Sholdice, 1966 -).

S. S. NO. 4 McKILLOP

Twelve years after the 1841 Education Act came into effect a log school was built in 1853, known as S S. No. 4. The post office for the school was Harpurhey. Only a few records are available on its early history. In 1857 Patrick D. Cantillon taught English, Reading, Spelling, Arithmetic, Grammar and Geography and Geometry to one student. A May 1859 report shows that 93 pupils were in attendance. No. 4 school seemed to be the meeting place for school examinations - these were oral examinations with several teachers and perhaps an inspector being the examiners. Parents, friends and relatives attended these affairs. It is said that the children were so quiet and well-behaved you could hear a pin drop. Church services were also held in this school before a church was built. At this time William Sloan was Superintendent for Division 3, Huron - possibly a school inspector.

In Jan. 1860 Henry James Brine direct from teacher's institute became teacher at a salary of $400. paid twice yearly - the first when Government money became due and the remainder at the end of the year.

In 1850 the Education Act was replaced by the Upper Canada School Act. From an old expense sheet it is noted that the teacher did all the purchasing even to bells and door locks, being reimbursed by the school board. Labor was cheap then - it is seen by one receipt that James Sparling cut a log and repaired seats for $2. 25

S S 4 was declared a free school to all the inhabitants in 1858 The teacher s salary and all expenses were raised by a general tax on all residents of the section, with $222. 23 being raised.

Previous to the year 1862 all agreements were made binding by the use of wax but in that year a trustees' seal came into use. On May 17th of that year trustees were Robert Turnbull, George Habkirk and William Walker. They bought one-quarter acre of land on lot 21, con. 4 from Robert and Elizabeth Scott for the sum of $1.00 to be held by the trustees as long as it was used for educational purposes. In June of the same year the tender of Alexander Scott, Harpurhey, was accepted to build an additional wooden structure 20 by 12 feet to the north end of the old schoolhouse - the logs of the north end of the old school to be cut away and hauled off the grounds. The room was to be lathed and plastered on the inside and where the logs were cut away faced like a doorway. The teacher's desk was placed on the north end of the addition, with two benches on each side for the students. Siding was to be of dressed pine and floors to be levelled and laid with tongued and grooved flooring. The new building and alterations cost $1376. and Mr. Scott dug a well for $142.

No records are available until 1867 when a new common drinking cup complete with chain was purchased for .30¢ and placed on the new pump. The school appeared to have eavetroughs added for the first time

In 1869 the word ratepayer was used in place of inhabitant. In 1867 - 68 teachers' contracts show that J Elliott was hired for $400. and the first lady teacher, Miss Galloway, was hired for $180. Three years later there were two teachers at the school.

In 1876 an additional quarter acre was purchased outright on the west side. A new brick school was built before 1880 with separate entrances for boys and girls and a large room between which was often used as a junior classroom with one of the older pupils as teacher. Winter attendance often reached over 100. A hall the width of the schoolroom was used as a playroom. This school sat in the northeast part of the present yard.

In 1913 the present school was built and equipped

for about $3800. - three district residents supplying most of the finances, to be paid back later. This school of two stories is of cement brick built by Louis Hoegy for $2, 875. Much of the lumber used in the new school was from the original one, with the official opening in 1915. The school yard was drained and a pipe fence erected on two sides with 36 rods of pipe being bought for $67.

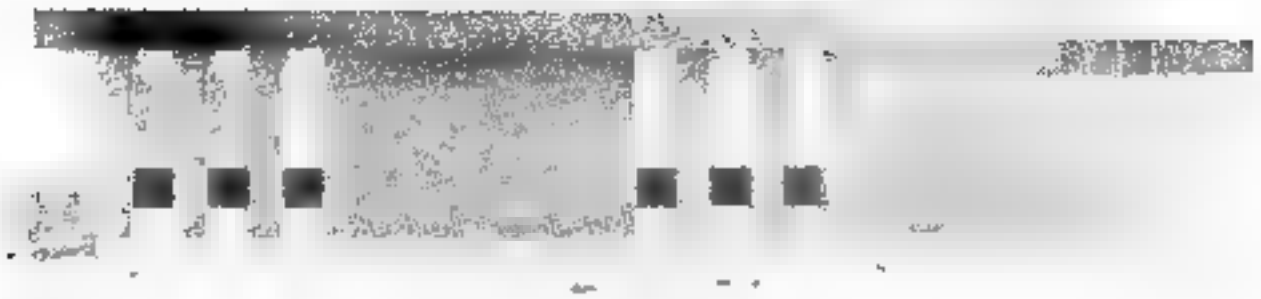
A large school clock purchased in 1917 is still in use. Chemical lavatories were installed in 1922 , hydro in 1946, a new furnace in 1948, and a fire escape in 1951. An organ bought in 1927 was replaced by a piano. A music supervisor was hired in 1941 and in 1952 under Mrs. Wendorf, S. S 4 won honors at the Goderich Music Festival several times.

Comparing costs - wood could be bought in 1867 for from . 62¢ to 90¢ a cord - by 1890 it had increased to over $2. 00 , yet two oak doors were built and hung for $4. 00. By the turn of the century wood was $4. 00 a cord and by 1909 coal was used for heating. In 1866 a little over $500. was paid for school taxes with expenses being a little over $400. Fifty years later taxes amounted to $1200. and expenses around $755. By 1952 expenses reached $3200. Caretakers salaries went to $125. or more from $5. Teachers often took on the caretaking job for $25. to $50. a year.

Early secretary-treasurers received $3. 00 while in 1946 salary paid had reached $25.

Trustees in 1958 were John Henderson, Alec Smith and Ross Gordon.

Many of the teachers were Joseph Boage, J. Elliott, Miss Galloway, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Sutherland, Mr. McLachlin, Mr Hartley, Mr. Hastie, Mr. P D Muir, Mr. McGregor, Mr. Hays, Mrs. Lydia (Campbell) McKinley, Mr. McRae, R. V. Hill, Mr. Forbes, Misses Waugh and Lawrence, Foster Fowler, Misses Crich, Mabel Hogg, Grace Kerr, Way, Minnie Wheatley, Mrs. Dorothy (Driscoll) Powell, Misses Eleanor Hudson,



C R C S.S U. 2 *St. Columban*

U S.S No. 1 *Nolan's*

R.C S.S No. 1 *Beechwood*

S.S. No. 4 *Duff's*

S.S. No. 6 *Wheatley's*

These pupils stand in front of S.S. No 2, McKellop in a picture taken in 1929. From the (left), (rear) are the teacher Ethel Nelson McClure, Edith M. McLean, Margaret Steven, Mae MacFarlane, James Muir, Stan McLean, James McClure, Edna Steven and Margaret McClure. (front) Robert McMillan, Verna McFarlane, Charlie Steven, Ernest Steven, Bertha McFarlane, Dorothy McClure, Arthur Anderson, John Anderson, Elmer Scott and Robert McClure.

Jessie Little, Elizabeth Scott, Mrs. Clarissa (Dale) Stewart, Mrs. Hackwell, Mrs. Weber, Mrs. Hanna, Mrs. Powell and Miss A. Diegel.

Mrs. R J. Doig is the present teacher.

An oil furnace, pressure system and new desks were added in 1965. In that year pupils from S. S. 13 (Roxboro) were transferred to S S 4 and were transported by bus.

S. S. NO. 5 McKILLOP

The school house of Section No. 5 was located on lot 10, concession 6, and to the best of our knowledge was established in the late 1850's.

The first building was of log construction and was replaced about 1890 with a white brick building.

Pupils attended No. 5 from the boundary of McKillop and Logan on the sixth and seventh concessions on the east, west on the same concessions about the same distance; the fourth and fifth on the south; and eighth and ninth concessions on the north.

We are told that the attendance would be around fifty in the Spring and Fall and would rise to nearly one hundred in the Winter months, when boys well up in their teens, who were needed to work on the farms in Summer would return to school.

After the turn of the century, the attendance declined and in 1915 the school was closed. The Section was absorbed by S S. No. 6, and S. S. S. No 1 McKillop.

According to public school inspector J. H Kinkead, Patrick Moylan originally granted a quarter acre of land to the trustees and sixteen years later in Nov. 1878 granted an additional quarter acre. When the school was closed, the trustees allowed the property to revert to Thomas J Moylan, the owner of lot 10. It had been rented for one dollar a year as long as it was used for school purposes.

We were unable to learn the names of the early teachers, but can recall hearing of a Mr. Phalen and of Mr. Charles McCabe and his brother around 1870. Other teachers were, Bob Evans, Jim DeCantion, Ella Givlin, Anna Doherty, Mary Lamb, Ellen Evans, James L. Dorsey, Margaret Devereaux, Pearl Anderson, Alice O Brien, David Hall and the last teacher was Frances Givlin.

S. S. NO. 6

It is believed the section organized in the 1850's. One of the early teachers was John Shannon, con. 5. He had come to McKillop in 1856 or 57 and taught in the township from May 1857 until his death in Jan. 1862. His son, William James Shannon, lot 17, con. 5, took over from him as teacher.

School trustees in 1861 were Barnet Bolton, Robert Armstrong and Robert Scarlett and the teacher's salary at that time was 60 pounds.

The first schoolhouse was on the northeast corner of lot 19, con. 8 (Campbell Farm) - the well and large elm trees still indicate the location. This school was then moved to the northeast corner of lot 16, con. 8 - its present location on a rental basis.

Until 1902 township nominations were held there, paying the school board $4.00 rental. The rent the board paid for the land was $3.00 per year and the caretaker was paid $16.00.

Discussions regarding a new school were held from Jan. 13th, 1897 until 1902. Contract was awarded to F. Gutteridge of Seaforth for $1,180. Debenture by-law expenses amounted to $13.; furniture, fixtures and desks cost $183.60; extras, $26.44 for a total cost of $1403.04. James Johnston bought the old school for $58. and Miss Mae Livens of Seaforth was first teacher in the new school.

A note in the back of the minute book states that in 1899 a "Great Snow Storm" occurred on Sept. 29 with

10 inches of snow in London; four in Stratford and three in McKillop and the temperature at Barrie was 10 degrees below zero.

A fifth class (equivalent to Form One in High School) was taught in many of the rural schools in the early 1900's for which grants were received. A bell was purchased in 1908 from Geo. A. Sills and Sons for $20. An organ purchased in 1924 was replaced by a piano in 1937. In 1945 - 46 payments of $175. and $165. were made toward the starting of the high school bus system. Hydro was installed in 1947 and new desks bought in 1949.

On Jan. 1, 1965 the section became part of the McKillop township school area. As of Sept. 1965, five pupils transferred to St. Columban Separate School and seven pupils were brought from S. S. No. 12 by bus. Miss Jessie Little, teacher then at S. S. 12, transferred to No. 6. Teachers over the years include: 1857 - 62 John Shannon; Jan. 1862 --- W J. Shannon; 1870's, Alex (Sandy) Johnston; 1880's, George Dewar; - to Oct 1895, Wm. Robinson; 1895 - 98 - Aggie O. Hays; 1899 - 01, Geo. Buchanan; 1901 - 02, Mae Livens; part 1903, Tillie Fowler; 1903 - 04, Hugh Taylor; 1904 - 06, Melvin Keys; 1907 - 11, Violet Simpson; 1911 (part), Annie Clark; 1912 (part) Olive Ross; 1912 (part) Kate Telfer; 1912 - 15, Mary L Coleman; 1915 (part), Evelyn Greig; 1916 - 18, Malvina Murdie; 1918 - 19, Edith Scott; 1919 - 20, Florence Deem; 1920 - 26, Marion Scarlett; 1926 - 34, Anona (Dale) Crozier; 1934 - 35, Miss M. Douglas; 1935 - 38, Alberta (Richmond) Montgomery; 1938 - 39, Wilfred Millson; 1939 - 40, Clarissa (Dale) Stewart; 1940 - 44, Reginald Pryce; 1944 - 45, Katherine McDonald; 1945 - 55, Foster T. Fowler; 1955 - 57, Douglas McKone; 1957 - 58, Mrs. Elizabeth Boyd; 1958 - 59, Mary Heuther; 1959 - 61, Mrs. Elizabeth Boyd again; 1961 - 62, Mrs. Jean Anderson; 1962 - 64, Eunice Thiel; 1964 - 65, Betty (Muegge) Beuttenmiller; 1965 ---Jessie Little.

S. S. 7 LEADBURY

Records show there was a log school on the present site as early as 1863. In 1876 the site was surveyed, lot fenced and a well dug. Samuel Hannah was paid $80. for the site and deed was registered with Holmstead and McCaughey of Seaforth. In 1907 the school building was sold to Thomas Archibald, remodelled for a dwelling and the present brick building erected by Luxton Hill of Blyth for $2,082.50.

Almost every ratepayer in the section served as trustee at one time or another. Alex Dennis was secretary-treasurer when the township school area was formed.

Thomas Whiteside, according to records of 1863, was the first teacher, followed by John Morrison; Misses Lucinda and Maggie Hannah, 1869 - 1872; Hugh Jamieson and David C. Dorrance, 1875 - 79; For the next 10 years there were two teachers yearly - Mr. Ratcliffe for four years assisted by Miss Forrest and Miss Riley; followed by J. McLeod for two years along with Miss A. Collie and William McKibbon; David Dorrance returned for three more years and was assisted by Miss Boyd, Miss E. Cash and Thomas McFadzean; in 1888 - 89 Miss G. Pollard and J. S. Hogg were teachers. Mr. Hogg then carried on alone for four years, 1890 - 93, with John S. Walsh, teacher in 1894. Christopher then was teacher for 14 years, 1895 - 1908, followed by Miss Amy Sheppard for two years and Miss Bella Taylor for the next two years. Miss Keziah Brown, teacher for two years was followed by Robert H. Hoover, then Miss Ruth A. Hayter for two years. In 1918 there were three short-time teachers - Miss Cora Forbes, Miss McKay and Frank Stirling followed by Miss Hazel Campbell. Miss Elva Little, teacher for seven years, 1920 - 1926, was followed by Miss Louise Mills up to 1928. Other teachers were Miss Cora Strong, Proctor, Joynt, Mrs. John Kellar, Mrs. L. Bolton, Mr. Litt, Miss Eleanor Weav-

er, Miss Lorraine Smith, McLennan and Gibson Willis, who is completing his 14th year.

Several music instructors were engaged from the 1940's on.

Teacher's earliest salary was $280. compared to $4900. in 1967. The first caretakers worked for a mere pittance while the caretaker to-day is paid $350. There was talk of closing the school in the mid 1930's but it was voted down. For the past two years extra pupils have been transported from the former No. 12 section.

At the moment the fate of this school is not certain but the rumor is that it may be closed in the near future after serving as an educational and social centre for over a century. The present school board for the school area is composed of John Henderson (chairman), Arthur Bolton, Murray Dennis, Harold Pryce and George Rock with Campbell Wey, as secretary-treasurer.

S. S. 8 MANLEY

Land on the southeast corner of lot 6, con. 10 was granted by the Canada Company in 1864 on which to build a school. A log school was constructed and the school section was known as S. S. No. 8, McKillop. First trustees were Mr. Newman and C. Dietz. Teachers in this school were Patrick O'Sullivan, 1864 - 66; Charles Shutters, 1866 - 67; Patrick Decantelon, 1867 - 73; David Rennie, 1873 - 77; H. Cosgrove, 1877 - 78; and Miss Margaret Moylan taught for almost two years in this first school. This land (and perhaps the old school) was sold in 1881 to C Steurnagel.

So that a school would be in the centre of the school section, plans were made to build another school. In 1879 a square acre of land was purchased at the northeast corner of lot 5, con. 10, for $100. and a one - room school built in its centre. A well was dug the same year. When this school opened Nov. 1, 1881, Miss Moylan was the first teacher for one year and two months.

Succeeding her were: Michael Murray, 1882 - 85; Miss Evelyn Givlin 1885 - 89, James Killoran, 1889 - 91; Frank Doherty, 1891 - 93; Miss Katherine Kenny, 1893 - 94; Robert McGee, 1894 - 99; Thomas McQuaid, 1899 - 1901; Miss Viola Simpson, 1901 - 04; Miss Kathleen Foy, 1904 - 05; Miss Cilhooly, Miss B. O'Connor and P. Ronan, parts of 1906 - 07; Miss Pearl Anderson, part of 1907 - 08; Miss Switzer, 1908 - 09; Miss Hanna Dalton, 1909 - 10; Miss Lecta McNahon, 1911 - 12.

In 1911 the schoolroom was divided into two rooms, the first teachers being Misses Lecta McNahon and Pearl Anderson, 1911 - 12; Misses Donnely and Hanna, 1912 - 1913; Misses Donnely and Sparling, 1913 - 1914; Misses E. Holland and Sparling, 1914 - 1915; Misses Givlin and Sparling, 1915 - 1916; Misses Givlin and Butterfield, 1916; Misses Givlin and Margaret Phelan, 1916 - 1917; Misses Phelan and Nora McCaughey, 1917; Misses Phelan and Margaret Coyne, part of 1917; Misses Shanahan and Meagher, 1917 - 1918; Misses Shanahan and Mary Murray, 1918 - 1919.

At the 1919 annual meeting it was decided to replace the old frame school with a new brick structure. In 1920 the new red brick school was opened. Trustees were John Murray, John Benneweis and Henry Dietz. Miss Rose Dorsey was the first teacher in the new school and taught from 1920 - 1923; Miss Margaret Regan, 1923 - 1924; Miss Helen Delaney, 1924 - 1936; Miss Marie Murray, 1936 - 1937; Miss Anna Beer, 1937 - 1941; Miss Francis Annis, 1941 - 1942; Ross Merrill, 1942 - 1944; Miss Mary Stapleton, 1944 - 1945; Miss Agnes L. Dwyer, 1945 - 1946; Miss Florence Brown, 1946 - 1949; Miss Margaret Koehler, 1949 - 1952; Miss Laureen Smith, 1952 - 1953; Miss Norma Leeming, 1953 - 1955; Don Meed, 1955 - 1957; Miss Joan McLaughlin, 1957 - 1961; Mrs. Terresa B. Coville from 1961 to the present time.

A well was drilled in 1937; in 1944 hydro was installed; a pressure system added in 1949 and in 1959 a new oil furnace was installed.

The present trustees are Frank Murray, secretary- treasurer; Alvin Elligsen, chairman and Norman Beiermann.

Four generations have gone to Manley school and three have returned to teach. They are: Mrs. Marie (Murray) Melady; Mrs. Joan (McLaughlin) Melady and the present teacher, Mrs. Teresa (Eckert) Coville.

When a reunion was held in 1964, two of the three oldest graduates were in attendance. They were George Diegel of Brodhagen, 90, and Alex Mitchell also 90, of Mitchell. John Messerschmidt, who was 91, was unable to attend. Others attending were Mrs. Henry Whittison, 80, of London, Mrs. Joseph Matthews and Mrs. August Hillebrecht. The youngest student on the grounds was six year old Keith Murray.

S S. No. 8 pupils have been noted for their musical and public speaking abilities over the years, guided, no doubt, by capable conscientious teachers and music supervisors.

S. S. NO 9 McKILLOP

In 1867 S S. 9 was built on lot 14, con. 13. It was a log cabin, 24 feet by 30 feet with no basement and box stove. Section boundaries were - lots 12 to 20 inclusive on con. 12; lots seven and 20 inclusive on con. 13 and from lots one to 19 inclusive, con. 14. The school boasted a dug well and wooden pump.

The first school board was Daniel Southwick, chairman with George Herrin and Thomas Davidson as the other trustees. George Murray was secretary-treasurer.

The first teacher was Joseph Dix, paid a salary of $240. He was followed by John Campbell in 1869 with a $40. increase. Three years later John Ferguson was teacher, followed by Gilbert Smith, Edward Evans and Stanley Anderson.

In 1882 a new frame school was built in spite of opposition at a cost of $1120. A board fence was re-

placed by a wire one. A drilled well was equipped with an iron pump.

Other teachers were William McKay, James Hog, Uriah McFadden assisted by Lydia Campbell, (for a number of years there were over 100 pupils), John G McLeod, William Doig , three graduates who taught at No. 9 were Miss June Brotherson and William and James Rae.

The frame school was rebuilt in 1926, bricked and a basement underneath, equipped with toilets; furnace and lightning rods. The first teacher then was Mrs. Edna (Hackwell) Reid. The school was remodelled in 1959 - walls panelled and ceiling tiled. In 1962 an oil furnace and pressure system were installed.

Mrs. James Smith has been teacher since 1957. The school and grounds have been a social centre for the section.

A letter written in 1946 about S. S. 9 by 'Old Timer".

"' The school-boy spot we ne'er forget, though there we are forgot.

" The school was on a half-acre plot on the south side of con. 14, three miles east of the old north gravel road (now a paved highway, County Road 12). The lot was almost square, being 150 feet from east to west. It was originally a part of the late Thomas Davidson, Sr. - a pioneer who settled on con. 12 in 1857 and whose 100 - acre farm extended right through from con. 12 to 14. The school section was established in the mid 60's, as part of the Upper Canada School System. The first school was log, 30 by 40 feet with a gable roof with three double-sash windows on each side. It was built close to the road, facing east with a porch over the entrance. An attractive board fence enclosed the grounds with a gate on the side next the road.

'The second school was a well planned frame building, not lacking in architectural beauty, with large

S.S No 7 *Leadbury*

S S. No 8 *Manley*

S.S. No. 9 *Dennis*

S.S. No 10 *Winthrop*

S.S. No. 12 *Grieves*

S.S. No. 13 *Roxboro*

S.S. No. 5 was established in the middle of the last century and served until declining attendance resulted in the school being closed about 1915. The class shown here attended school about sixty years ago when Miss Anderson was the teacher. In the late eighteen hundreds records indicate on occasions attendance at the school neared one hundred pupils during the winter months.

classrooms, high ceiling, separate cloak rooms, teacher's room and a bell tower. The school was always painted a light gray and occupied the same place on the grounds as the present building (1946) and was opened in 1882. It was used for nearly 50 years. The present brick building replaced the frame school in 1926.

"In clearing his land Mr. Davidson left about 12 acres of original bush at the back of his farm (con. 14) which came right up to the school grounds on the south and east. It was the only school in the township to enjoy the benefits and beauty of such a location. In 1946 some of his descendants were still living on con. 12 but the ownership of the old farm passed into other hands but the bush is still there, but has cattle running through it. That bush meant a lot to the pupils - it meant freedom and sheer delight and was abundant with wild flowers in the spring.

"The shade trees along the north side were planted in 1884 - 85 when W. C MacKay was the teacher. Two of the maple trees on either side of the old gate were planted by me ("Old Timer") and the two corner maples by Alex Souter and Albert Robinson. The trees along the west side were planted in 1888 when U. J. McFadden was teacher. He was later County Court Judge.

"The old woodshed was moved - a landmark was changed - before it was hidden. Several names were carved on it and its old pine door - W J C., William John Cameron, Robert Brotherston, but time has pretty well obliterated them. Schoolmates who passed away during 1944 - 46 were Mrs. Isaac Bolton (Elizabeth Anne Hackwell); Mrs. James Harris (Mary Wiltse) and George Wiltse, formerly of con. 14."

Seeing the above letter in The Huron Expositor, George Delgatty of Gilbert Plains, Manitoba, wrote saying he was raised on the farm across from the school in the 1860's. His father was Alex Delgatty. He re-

called, along with his brother Bob building a miniature sawmill in the little stream that crossed the road and through the bush by the schoolyard. The little mill had a paddle wheel, a pulley belt and a saw that was six inches across. A spring freshet washed it all away. Mr. and Mrs. Delgatty died in 1912.

S. S. NO. 10 WINTHROP

One-half acre of land (south-west corner) of lot 26, con. 9, McKillop was granted by Robert and Wilhelmenia Hanna to the trustees as long as it was used for educational purposes. Dated June 2, 1873, it was signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of Alex Murchie, Winthrop, farmer, storekeeper and past master, L. O. L. 813.

Earl McSpadden discovered, while searching the title in the Registry Office, Goderich, that the land mentioned in the deed is actually in Mrs. Robert Beattie's bush. The Registrar of Deeds discovered the error in 1917, but it had never been corrected.

Before the old school house was built there was a small double-boarded frame building on the south-east corner of the farm belonging at present to Mrs. Robert Beattie. A lady, whose name is unknown to the oldest residents to-day, taught school in this building. The same building was used as a store by Mrs. Sheridan, later as a chopping mill by Mr. Holden, and finally moved further north and west to be used as a granary by the late William Kinney. It was torn down recently by Robt. Beattie.

It is not known whether S S. 10 existed as a section or whether the lady in question taught privately. The late Melvin Blanchard attended that early school for a brief period. The old frame school was built on the land mentioned above in 1873. In 1881 it was divided into two rooms with two teachers. Later an addition was built to the south end of the school, forming two cloak rooms with a hallway between.

In 1907 the old school was purchased by James Nicholson for $100. and was moved to lot 27, con. 8 on land now occupied by Vera and Velma Haist. Finally torn down, the material salvaged was used in building the house on the present property. Some of the first teachers remembered by the older residents were: Duncan Campbell, Alex Shaw, Alex Johnston, David Droft of Wingham, Thompson Morrison, John Eddy Johnson, Davy Dorrance, Clarissa Hays and John C. Morrison.

After the school was made into two classes, the teachers were: Fred Perrin and Maggie Govenlock; John McFadzean and Harriet Campbell; Martha J. Hillen and Herbie Lawrence (1894).

Early secretary treasurers were Thomas McElroy, 1895 - 1905 succeeded by Robert Scarlett in 1906. It was then decided to build a new school the next year. A new well was dug in 1896. Ed. Perrie of Listowel had the contract to build the school in 1907 for $2600., material being purchased from Phillip Ament, Brussels. Money to meet the cost was already on hand. The trustees were Robert Scarlett, Thomas Dodds and George McKee and Miss Celina Durand was the first teacher. George Eaton received $30. as caretaker in 1908 and the government grant that year was $78.

Mr. McKee was secretary-treasurer from 1916 to 1925 followed by John Montgomery in 1926. That same year a fence was built around the grounds with a pipe fence across the front. In 1928 a bell, 20 inches in diameter was purchased for $20., and labor for work around the school was 20 cents an hour. Indoor plumbing was installed in 1934. Several improvements were made in the 1930's and in 1938 shingles for the roof cost $94.62 and Walter Eaton did the job for $23.

A Mr. Robb was the first inspector in the new school. Then Dr. J M. Field from 1911 - 1936, followed by John Hartley, Clinton, for a brief period. In 1938 J. H. Kinkead, Goderich, became inspector foll-

owed by G. G Gardiner from 1955 to 1960, then J. W. Coulter from 1960 to the present time.

Miss Helen Britton was the first music teacher from 1938 to 1942, followed by Douglas Gill, then Mrs. G. Wendorf in 1944 to 1953. Then Stanley Smith, Catherine Keating, Ron Klinck, Joanne Gilmar, Don Dunbar in 1961, Mary Lou Johnston until the present.

Improvements included a drilled well by Ephriam Haase in 1942 for $216; a $100. piano in 1945; hydro in 1948; a radio and record player in 1949; an oil furnace in 1950; a fire escape in 1959; pressure system and flush toilets in 1960 (Robert Doig); painting in 1962 (Jack Eisler); swings and a slide for playground in 1961.

Secretary-treasurers have been: Charles Dolmage, Irvin Trewartha, John Campbell, Hiram Blanchard, John Pethick, Theron Bettles, Thomas Pryce and presently, Earl McSpadden.

The various teachers have been: Edith Campbell, (Mrs. George Carter, Londesboro); Archie M. Campbell; Harvey Buchanan, Lizzie Dorrance (Mrs. Jim Shannon) around 1901 and Minnie Izzard; Ella J. Chesney, 1914 - 17; Laura Ament, Brussels, 1917 - 19; Gladys Shillinglaw; Edna M. Jamieson, 1920 - 27; Lydia L. Reid (Mrs. Jim Turnbull, Ethel) 1927 - 29; Tillie Storey, 1929 - 32 at $1,000. per annum; Rossie Patrick, 1932 - 34; Gordon C. Rennie, 1 year at $550.; Vera M. Haist, 1935 - 44; Delphine Bisback (Mrs. Leslie Dolmage) 1944 - 46; Georgina Campbell (supply); Mrs. John (Eula) Kellar, 1946 - 50; Estelle Cox, 1950 - 52; J. MacDonald; Mrs. Doreen McCreath, 1952 - 54; Margaret Bartja, Monkton, 1954 - 56; James Axtman, 1956 - 59; Doreen (Mrs. Merton) Hackwell, 1958 - 61; Ruth Hibbard (Mrs. Robt. J. Campbell) 1961 - 62; Irwin Johnston, 1962 - 66; Mrs. George Powell, 1966 - - .

Several former pupils gave their lives in both world wars.

S. S. NO. 12

In 1889 families living on con. 11 considered building a school. A meeting was called on May 6 by Francis Morrison. He, William McIntosh and John G. Grieve were appointed interim trustees until an annual meeting was held Dec. 26, 1889, called by Inspector D Robb of Brussels.

The section was small as it was formerly included in sections 6, 7 and 10.

Three sites were selected but as an agreement could not be reached, arbitrators were hired for $6.00 with Robert Smith representing the ratepayers and Samuel Smith the trustees. The site agreed on was lot 27, con. 11.

of the school which was built in 1890 was: lot, $80.; school building $858.; furniture and equipment $275. The trustees borrowed $400. to start construction. Provincial and county grants and proceeds from an entertainment paid the balance.

From 1890 to 1965 the school was heated by a wood-burning heater and furnace with about 10 cord of 22 inch wood and 20 cord of 14 inch wood used annually. The first well was dug in 1896 at a cost of $41.50 for digging, bricking in and a pump installed. This well never proved too satisfactory, so 47 years later - in 1943 - a well was drilled.

During 1946 - 47 the following renovations were carried out - new, enlarged windows on the south side; entrance was moved to the east end and a bell was placed on the porch; a record player was purchased and a piano replaced an organ. A partition and the furnace were moved to make better use of space available with one room being used as a classroom and the other as a recreation room. New desks and electric lighting were added in 1949.

A strong community spirit existed in No. 12 section and when a job needed to be done at the school

there were always volunteers for the job.

Other early trustees were William Morrison, John Cuthill, Alex Ross and John Morrison (chairman).

Trustees in 1949 - 50 were William Montgomery (chairman), Oscar Cuthill and Arthur Alexander. Mrs. Cuthill was secretary-treasurer. To celebrate its 60th anniversary in June 1950, a picnic was held at Seaforth Lions'Park with 125 in attendance.

Names of pupils who attended between 1890 and 1896 included: Ed., Will, LuEdna and Albert Morrison; John, Willie, Fred and Beatrice Galbraith; Bella, Florence, Annie and Wellington Pollard; Lizzie O., John, Mary, Charles, Robert, Nettie, Lizzie D., Will, James and Hugh Grieve; Monte and John Pethick; Melvin Dodds; Minnie, Will, Eliot, Bessie and Annie Somerville; Ford Aitcheson; Ellie, Dora and Tom Love; Charlotte and Annie Mann; Tom, Agnes, John and Maggie Beattie; Willie McKay; Annie, Willie and Alice Wyatt; Dora, Mabel and Myrtle McClure; Jessie Cuthill; Jeanne Alexander; Jennie, Dora, Mary and Florence Staples; Vera Ross; Charles and John Riley.

Miss Annie Simpson was the first teacher. Others included Misses Maudson, Hillen, Margaret Scott (Mrs. J. C Laing); Misses Cunningham, L. Kenny, Cora White, Annie Somerville, A. D. Hays, A. Finkbeiner, Christina Dickson, Mabel Dorrance, Ida M Crozier, Vera Haist, Annie Strong, Jean Alexander, William Draper, A. J. Dinnen, Olive Moon, Mary Holland, Mrs. Claire Eckert, Mrs. (Nan Holmes) Charles MacDonald and from 1951 to 1965 - Miss Jessie Little.

That year S. S 12 became part of the McKillop school area and the school was sold to H and J Boven.

S. S. NO. 13 ROXBORO

Thomas E. Hays, John McDowell and John McMillan took an oath of office before John Beattie, J. P., May 11, 1889. They were the first trustees of the new school section No. 13 and held their first board meet-

ing at John Walkers, lot 30, con. 3, Dec. 26, 1889. The decision was reached due to overcrowding at S. S. No. 2, one and one-quarter miles north and known as Roxboro school.

On April 5, 1890 $75.00 was paid to James Scott and his wife, Isabella, with William G. Duff as witness, for three-quarters of an acre of land, part lot 31, to be used as a school site. Mr. Hays was secretary-treasurer. Roderick Grey and John Scott were first auditors. Frame school house built in 1890 by a Mr. Querengesser cost $650.

Miss Bella Dickson and a Miss Campbell were the first teachers. Miss Anna Brown taught from 1892 to 1897 - salary $250. - $280. In 1902, $10. was voted to start a school library. Miss Matilda Fowler taught from 1904 - 1917 - salary $130. to $600. New fence erected and grant to McKillop school fair in 1918. Asphalt shingles put on outside in 1925 and a painter was paid .40 cents an hour to paint exterior.

Miss Vera Haist, Mrs. Joseph Grummett and Mrs. Russell Worden (Staffa) are believed to be the only former teachers living in the area.

School closed in 1941 because of lack of pupils. Re-opened in 1956. Trustees were Sam Scott, Peter McCowan, John Powell, Jr., Francis Coleman, Jr., Harold Agar and James M. Scott.

In January, 1965, by government decree, the school was placed under jurisdiction of a township board and closed in June. In July, 1965 purchased by Sam Scott - grandson of original owner of land.

Others who taught at No. 13 were: Miss Nellie McMillan, Robert A Aitcheson, Miss Isabel Aitcheson, Miss Agnes D. Hays, Miss Mae McIvor, Miss Dorothy Hutchison, Frank Coates, William McNay, Miss Stella Richmond, Miss Mae Shortreed. (School closed). Fifteen years later Mrs. Robert Simpson, when school reopened, followed by Mrs. Mary Heuther, Mrs. John McLlwain and Miss Janet Tyndall.

There were several music supervisors. The last school board members were: Francis Coleman, James M. Scott and W. J McDowell (secretary-treasurer). Since then pupils from this section were transported to S. S. 4.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Sometimes I think we over-praise
The glories of the "good old days".
In good old days strong men were able
To cut the grain with scythe and cradle.
And then there came a fancy reaper
That cut the grain a great deal cheaper.
Then men just worked to beat the band
To tie the bundles up by hand.
And then there came that binder thing
That tied the bundles up with string.
Then came the job that really hurt -
We threshed the grain midst dust and dirt
Until we got the grain combine
That did not use a bit of twine!
It did not seem to change the yield
But threshed the grain out in the field.
The tallow light was not too bright
And then we had the candle light.
And candle light, as we have seen
Was followed by the kerosene.
And then - we had electric light
So men could work both day and night.
I guess we're too close up to see
How good the new times really be!

by "Sodbuster".

Farms and Families

SCOTT POULTRY FARMS and
THE INTERNATIONAL PLOWING MATCH

James M Scott is the founder of the Scott Poultry Farms which is to-day one of the larger poultry establishments in the Province of Ontario. In the fall of 1920 he took over the farm flock of 40 Barred Rock hens - this was at the time when early winter eggs were unthought of, but through the use of fresh meat scraps, careful feeding, good management and the extension of daylight by artificial lighting, his small flock gave exceptionally high production throughout the years. This gave him encouragement to continue and was the foundation of to-days hugh enterprise - one of the larger poultry establishments in Ontario.

The next year his poultry plant had increased to 50 pullets housed in the stable. Along with a 60-egg incubator, a second-hand brooder house (purchased for $5.00) and a small coal-burning brooder stove was the second step.

Year by year by wise planning and shrewd business practises, his business grew by leaps and bounds until to-day his poultry business occupies 412 acres in one block and includes four sets of farm buildings equipped with the most modern poultry equipment available. Incubators with a capacity for hatching more than

32,000 chicks each week, are in use in 1967 - quite an expansion in 45 years.

For the past two years son Bill has been assisting his father in the management of the Scott Poultry Farms Ltd., now associated with Kimber Chick Inc., Niles, California.

The outstanding event in Seaforth and area in 1966 was the International Plowing Match, Oct. 11 - 14, on the Scott Poultry Farms adjacent to the northwest corner of the town in McKillop Township. While more than 50,000 people paid admission to what could have been a record event, almost continuous rain created serious problems and cut down attendance.

As early as 1961 negotiations started in an effort to bring the event to Huron County in the near future, with the Ontario Plowman's Association to choose the best site possible. Scott Farms was selected as the logical site.

When it became definite that the match was to be held in the Seaforth area the officials to be in charge were named. To head the local committee were Gordon McGavin, a past O. P. A. president and Larry Snider, a business man of Exeter, as co-chairman. (The last provincial match held in Huron County was in 1949 at Port Albert - known as the Victory Match). Other chairmen included Donald McKenzie of Ashfield (1967 Warden), W D Stephenson, Seaforth and Bill Hanly, treasurer, Goderich.

The planning job was immense but with the co-operation of all concerned the event lined up beautifully. An enjoyable prelude to the match was the sod-turning ceremony at the site on June 11, 1966, with the Hon. C. S. MacNaughton, then Minister of Highways and the Hon. William Stewart, Minister of Agriculture, turning the first sod using a plow that had been used on the same farm a century earlier. Weatherwise it was a delightful day with a good crowd on hand. Everything pointed

to a successful match to be held at the same site four months later.

The week end prior to the match the location looked magnificent - lush grass could never have been greener nor skies bluer. Colorful buildings, tents and flags added to the picture but, the afternoon before it was to open, skies became dark and rain began to fall. All the work and planning that had gone into making it one of the largest International Matches ever held was about to be almost washed out.

In spite of all the difficulties, those in charge carried bravely on and all plowing events and most of the other events except the daily parade, went on as scheduled. To make up for the weather the Match was extended one day - rain and more rain fell.

However, the International was successful financially. Huron and all concerned did their best.

A local girl, Amy Stewart, daughter of Warden Kenneth Stewart, was declared Queen of the Furrow.

Mayor of the Tented City was James M. Scott, owner and operator of Scott Poultry Farms, while son Bill was deputy mayor. Close to 1000 acres were in use or optioned for the event.

E A. Lashley, secretary-manager of the O. P. A. reported at the annual meeting that the site had been perfect; administration the very best - the weatherman being the only one who did not co-operate.

THE EVANS FAMILY

The Evans family were among the first to settle in McKillop Township. Fortunately they had acquired what was then considered a good education, and were able to play an active part in the development of the community.

There were two men, Joseph and William, and two sisters. One sister married a Dorsey and moved

away; the other married Thomas Tully and lived on the farm now occupied by Matthew Murray. Of a family of five sons and four daughters, only one son married and went to live in North Dakota. Of the daughters who married, none had families.

Joseph Evans raised a family of five sons and two daughters. Several went to the United States to live. James Evans' family were all girls. James and his father took active parts in township affairs - council and county council, and served as Justices of the Peace for many years and also were members of the McKillop Fire Insurance Company.

Joseph Evans and Robert Turnbull were township auditors in 1884 and Solomon J. Shannon, treasurer.

THE CAMPBELL FARM

In 1839 the Canada Company took over from the Crown a large tract of land in the Township of McKillop. About fifteen years later the land was taken up by an enterprising Irishman from County Armagh, Ireland. His name was Robert Campbell, grandfather of Robert W Campbell. He was 34 when he began farming. Previously he had hauled logs from Toronto to Oshawa for Mc Laughlin Wagon Works. He married Ann Jane (McAdam) Campbell, also of Armagh, Ireland. His brother John had settled on the next farm. Robert and Ann had four children - Margaret Ann, James Henry, Mary Jane and Robert Alexander. The first log house was built west of the present garage. It consisted of one large livingroom, 2 adjacent bedrooms and one large attic room upstairs. The milk house was a lean-to at the end. The first barn was built on the bank of the river - no stone foundation. The present house was built in 1876 - William Johnston being mason and plasterer. Colin and Sinclair Gordon grained woodwork and inside painting. The doors and window sills are of stone brought by sleigh

from Owen Sound. For years across the kitchen ceiling were two rows of large hooks put there when the house was built - still there in 1952. From them hung hams and shoulders of pork to be cured. The first cow-stable was converted into a garage. The present barn was built in 1890 and the flag stones came from Shine's stone quarry in Grey County. William Summers was the stone mason and George McGonigle was framer.

The story is told that McGonigle's son, Robert, stood on his head on one of the ventillators when barn was finished. The two captains were Thomas Stephens (Sr.) Queen's Hotel and a Mr. Ewan.

The Campbells discarded coaloil lamps and lanterns for Delco in 1927 and for hydro in 1939.

Robert Campbell, the first, died in 1907; his wife had died in 1904, the farm going from the original owner to the present owner, who took over in 1924 and married the former Lillie Gordon in 1926.

Maple syrup has been made on the farm since the early days. Old spiles were eight inches long, driven into the trees with a wooden mallet. In those days the women spun their own yarn and a spinning wheel was a fixture. They also made their own candles and the children made colored candles for Christmas.

The old drag saw used was made in Seaforth's first foundry. Oak trees standing 60 feet high were started in flower pots. A milk stand was a common sight at farm gates where cans of milk were set to be picked up for the cheese factory. Later farmers delivered their own milk.

An overflowing well was drilled in 1931. The house almost burned down in the 1900's caused by a chimney spark. The ringing of the farm bell summoned help. William Smith, who was doing a decorating job there, fainted and had to be carried down from the verandah. Taxes in 1884 were $28.90 on $3,880 assessment while in 1951 taxes were $257. on an assessment of $7600.

THORNTON HALL FARM

Thornton Hall Farm, con. 1, McKillop, on the north side of No. 8 highway, is one and one-quarter miles west of Seaforth - just beyond the Harpurhey limits.

Adolphine Thornton, wife of Ludwig Meyer, who came to Canada as a pioneer bride in 1872, named the place after her father, John Thornton, a British Consul in the City of Hamburg, Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer lived there many years.

Ludwig and three brothers first came to Canada in 1839 and each took up 100 acres near Harpurhey. After three years there, Ludwig returned to Germany, married Miss Thornton and settled on the bush farm.

A spacious house was built with considerable time and money used to make it and keep it beautiful indoors and out. The building on the east side of the drive-shed was for the farm labourer and his family. A summer house was used as a playhouse for their seven children.

For 35 years Mr. Meyer was division court clerk with an office in Seaforth, 1872 - 1886. Dying at 77 he had outlived the deaths of four county judges and had been noted for his poor writing.

His wife used to sit on a large fieldstone near their home watching for her husband's homecoming. After her death, Ludwig had this large boulder placed on the Meyer plot to mark her grave in Harpurhey Cemetery where it can be seen to this day.

Archibald D. Scott, son of pioneer James Scott, Roxboro, purchased the farm in 1891, the year he married Annie E. Ross, daughter of Finlay Ross, McKillop. His son, James F. assisted him until Mr. and Mrs. Scott retired to Seaforth in 1927. Andrew Davidson purchased the farm in 1965 and Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Scott retired to Seaforth.

THE FRANK CASE FARM

Frank Case formerly lived in Tuckersmith but bought lot 23, Huron Road Survey, McKillop. He was a drover and owned 600 acres in the vicinity. The farm on which he made his home had never been plowed until it was turned over into a Golf Course in 1933. A Golf Holding Corporation was formed and purchased the farm. By June, 1934, it was in operation at a cost of $3,220.80 being spent on construction of the course. A tennis court was opened in 1938.

Timber had been cut off early and the stumps had been allowed to rot away. The farm was used for pasture and gravel was hauled from a pit across the river behind the house.

The first Case house was frame. The one on the property now is a commodious brick home built in 1879. The foundation and brick work cost $1200. One large stone, gray sandstone, constitutes the four corners of the foundation. The stone was blasted with dynamite to break it and four pieces were trimmed and finished to make the corner stones. William Copp was the brick-layer and the brick was made at Bowden's brickyard on the farm now owned by Scott Cluff in Egmondville. The spot from which the clay was taken was called 'The Hollow' by the Egmondville boys.

Mr. Case built the road fence along the front of the farm with lumber. The posts were six feet apart and were delivered by Tom Downey from Pony Mills in McKillop, east of Walton, for five cents each. The lumber was of the very best and cost $4.50 per 1000 board feet.

The maple grove on the farm was famous for picnics and Mr. Case cleared as much as $1000. a year from this source. The Case swimming-hole was known far and wide and the Case Creek (now Silver Creek) was a fisherman's paradise for trout. The Case gravel and sand pit supplied building material for half the Town of

Seaforth and surrounding countryside. The pavements of Seaforth were built of this material.

The Cases had a pair of Shetland ponies from Scotland, which were an enjoyment for children of the area. Mr. Case died in 1891 and his wife, who kept a beautiful garden of plants and shrubs, died about 1917.

The Golf Club ceased operations about 1943 and the Case house was vacant for a few years. Brad Smith bought the house and tennis court about 1951. Frank Kling owns the lot between the driveway and the hospital fence and back even with the back of the Smith lot. Dale Nixon owns the rest of the farm, 85 or 90 acres.

A Bevenue

This scene from Heidenreich's Atlas of 1879 indicates the business activity that existed at Winthrop at that time. According to the Atlas Winthrop on the Seaforth and Bruce County turnpike is five miles south east of the former place and has daily mail by stage both ways. There are two large steam mills (grist and saw) store (dominion Telegraph office cheese factory church and school

[illegible] was on [illegible] for community gatherings. Here a barn goes up on the Peter O'Sullivan farm now owned by Zack Ryan at lot 17 [illegible] 3. Framed by Owen Hart of Columbian it was built about 1916.

This [illegible] on the farm of [illegible] Ryan created traffic problems on the narrow roads common in McKillop early years ago. This threshing machine was operated by (left) John Dennis, Neil Kleine and Harry Dennis. The picture was taken on the 12th of McKillop about 1910.

Business Through the Years

WINTHROP CHEESE AND BUTTER FACTORY

December 13, 1872 - John C Morrison proposes going into the cheese business at Winthrop. Timber is on the ground for a new factory and he has engaged an experienced cheesemaker, William Hill. The building is to be in the shape of a T The main building with the end towards the road is to be 48 by 28 feet, with weighing and vat room underneath, 26 by 28 feet. A press room, 24 by 16 feet is to be built to the west side and an engine room 20 by 16 feet, is to be on the east side Excellent spring water is available. Quite a large number of cows have already been guaranteed to supply milk.

It was open from May 5 to October 11, 1873. H. Tyerman was the largest contributor and received $289 92 for the season.

Cheese made by Hill and Morrison in 1875 won first prize at Central Fair, Guelph. In 1880 cheese sold for 11 cents a pound and butter 25 cents. The next year's cheese sold for one-half cent a pound more and patrons received nine cents a gallon for milk.

In 1882 the factory was operated by James Kerr, Finlay Ross and Francis Morrison. That summer the factory received 642, 879 pounds of milk and made 60, 660 pounds of cheese (10. 41 pounds milk made one

pound of cheese) In 1886 the company in charge was: president, Alex Kerr; directors, Finlay Ross and Stephen Godkin. J. C. Morrison was secretary-treasurer. Improvements totalled $234. with vats and presses to be added

In Nov. 1887 the factory was burned to the ground. Lost were 200 cheeses, all machinery and utensils. Insurance was $900. By the following March all material was on hand ready for a new factory and plans were to be in operation, May 14, 1888.

In Oct. 1890 Winthrop cheese won a total of $30. in first prizes at Western Fair, London for the three best pale cheeses;also silver medal for best cheese in any class shown. Geo. H. Barr was cheesemaker.

In 1892 farmers' milk was to go to John Hannah for butter-making. He proposed to pay monthly for all milk delivered at factory at six cents per 10 pounds for first four months and seven cents per 10 pounds for next two months. It takes 30 or more pounds of milk to make one pound of butter. At this rate farmers received 18 and 21 cents for each pound of butter made and no work making it. Mr. Hannah installed a centrifugal machine to separate cream from milk. The sweet skim milk went back to the farmers and cream was taken to Seaforth Creamery to be made into butter. Mr. Hannah paid for milk hauling.

Some felt they should be paid according to butter fat content, so it was agreed that those whose milk had four per cent butter fat were to receive one-third more money. The separator was capable of separating cream from 3000 pounds of milk in an hour Twenty-five pounds of cream made 10 pounds of butter at a temperature of 58 degrees in 13 minutes.

Travelling dairies were held occasionally. A good buttermaker would travel from factory to factory to demonstrate to the public milk testing and butter making.

In 1894 it was reported that Mr. Hannah was to

make an assignment. He sold his livestock but not his farm or factory at that time.

Cheesemaking resumed in 1895 instead of butter with A. Govenlock, Robert Campbell and Francis Morrison as directors. In June of that year farmers agreed that dairying was as profitable as raising grain.

In January 1897 cheese sold for 10 cents a pound and there was $2000. to be distributed among some 70 patrons and milk haulers. Milk was 73 cents per 100 pounds - better than oats at 18 cents a bushel. In May 1897 there were nine milk routes. That year 55 1/2 tons of cheese were manufactured, valued at $9000. Frank Millson was cheesemaker for some time

In March 1904, factory was sold to Calder and Scarlett with patrons having charge of selling the butter and apportioning proceeds. Butter output in 1903 was valued at $8200

In 1904 a hall was added to the creamery which served for meetings and entertainment - called Calder's Hall. Church services were held there while the new Cavan Church was being built in Winthrop.

At the annual meeting, March 1907, it was shown that the factory did $15,000. worth of business in six months the previous year. Mr. Calder installed a new churn and buttermaker. In 1907, 65,000 pounds of butter were made and he installed government standard refrigerator. In 1908, 43 tons of butter were made valued at $19,000. and there were 225 patrons. Highest price was 28 cents and lowest 19 1/2. The year 1909 was one of the biggest years in its history - 59 1/4 tons of butter made, valued at $26,000. There were 250 patrons and butter sold at 10 1/2 cents a pound. Output had increased fourfold in five years.

Frank Millson, who at one time was buttermaker and also operated a store in Winthrop, died in 1911.

In 1912 110 tons of butter were made valued at $60,000 and sold at . 30 cents a pound. Value of butter made in 1913 was $52,472. selling at 24 1/2 cents a

pound. Robert Scarlett was re-elected president and A A Cathill, secretary-treasurer. A. G Calder agreed to make butter for 3 1/4 cents a pound labour.

In April 1914 the factory was completely destroyed by fire All contents and two milk wagons nearby were lost but manufactured stock had all been sold. Origin of fire was unknown. It was one of the best equipped factories in the county.

Although a little late in starting operations, the plant was rebuilt and operated five months in 1915 with 65 tons of butter made valued at $32,000.

Clarence Parker, a newphew of Mr. Calder, was buttermaker in 1912 - 13. He now lives in Woodstock.

Mr. Parker believes that Mr. Calder purchased the factory in the late 1890's or early 1900 s and apparently he was a cheese and buttermaker from childhood, having operated in various other centres. Mr. Parker also states that in the early days it was a stock company plant owned by farmers in the community. Mr. Calder moved to Hickson in 1918 where he died in 1940 and his wife died in the mid 1960's. The Calder home at Winthrop was bought by Mr. and Mrs George Eaton, who now live in Seaforth. Mr. Parker also recalls that McKillop council met in the old curing room of the factory and J. M Govenlock, who operated a tile yard at Winthrop, was reeve when he worked there. Mr. Parker has pleasant recollections of his years at Winthrop and recalls playing football - he and Tommy Govenlock played right wing.

The L O L 813 bought the building in May, 1926 and have held their meetings there ever since. It is possible the building was unused from 1917 or 18 until then.

THE McKILLOP MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

In 1907 there were rumors that telephone lines

to serve the population in the township were to become a reality. In March 1908 canvassing for telephone installations was carried out with a meeting called to form a company and lay plans to build a line. An interim committee was set up with Robert Scarlett, president; John McGavin, vice-president and James Kerr, secretary. Con Eckert and Mike Broderick, Seaforth, addressed the meeting and extolled the benefits of 'the wonder of the age .

Canvassers named were: Wm. McGavin, James Smith, Hugh Alexander, Charles Little, George McKee, John M Govenlock, Adam Dickson, James Kerr and Geo. D C Hearn.

The canvass was fairly successful but they decided to delay action until a scheme for an extended line to Walton, Constance and an area south of Seaforth, was investigated.

In April a meeting was planned to form a company known as the McKillop Rural Telephone Company. A canvass for stock was planned for a line from Seaforth to Walton with spur lines. A charter was to be applied for. Provisional directors named were: Robert Scarlett, James Kerr, I. V. Fear, Chas. Little, John Cuthill, Geo. Hearn and Robert Smith.

Estimated cost to construct a line and install telephones along the proposed route was $1800. Other areas were becoming interested.

'May 8, 1908, the three commissioners appointed to attend to the building of a line of the McKillop Municipal System and purchase of supplies met at A. A. Cuthill's store (Winthrop).

Moved by John Dodds, seconded by Geo. Hearn that J M Govenlock be secretary. Carried.

Moved by John Dodds and seconded by J. M. Govenlock that George Hearn be president. Carried.

Moved by George Hearn and seconded by J M Govenlock that John Dodds be treasurer. Carried.

Geo. D. C Hearn, Secretary."

Constitution of McKillop Telephone System - reads in part -

"This system shall be known as the McKillop Telephone System with the central office to be in Winthrop.

The Board of Commissioners shall consist of three members elected by the initiating subscribers among themselves and shall hold office for one year, until the annual meeting - a president, a secretary and a treasurer.

' The commission in charge of the line is to keep it in repair and have power to employ an expert whenever necessary and submit a report at each annual meeting.

Initial subscribers shall pay equally and annually for a permit of 10 years, with the rate levied on them by the McKillop council. The system is not to be extended until there shall be at least two subscribers to each and every mile of extension asked for.

'Any person except a subscriber or his family shall pay the sum of 15 cents for each and every message to any part of the line, five minutes being allowed for the transmission of each message, to be paid to the treasurer at the end of each month, or pay a fine of $1. 00".

The committee appointed to draft the constitution was James Kerr, Robert Smith and Alex Cuthill.

In May 1908 - under a new act passed by the Ontario Legislature, council issued debentures to cover cost of instruction and installation. To meet interest and sinking fund on debentures, users of telephones will be equally assessed with the cost spread over a 10 year period. Already 18 telephones were guaranteed on a 12 mile line Work on the line was to commence at once with arrangements left to J. M Govenlock, George Hearn and John Dodds.

May 18 - Meeting at J. M Govenlocks', it was moved by John Dodds and seconded by George Hearn, that Robert Smith, Jr., was to receive $200. for the

contract of putting up the telephone line, he to do all the work and make a satisfactory job. Carried.

Then - "I, Robert Smith, Jr., agree to build the line and I do all the work and guarantee to give a satisfactory job or no pay. Signed Robert Smith."

Robert Smith built the line which was completed in July 1908 and connections were made with Seaforth.

The first message over the new line was made by Thomas A. Beattie to his wife at John G. Grieve's home. There were 21 subscribers between Seaforth and Winthrop and it is said the first telephone was installed in the Robert Smith home.

The early subscribers included: T. A. Beattie, Robt Beattie, Robert Smith, Sr., Hugh Alexander, John Dodds, John Cuthill, Robert Smith, Jr., John G. Grieve, Alex Cuthill, John M. Govenlock, Andrew Calder, Robert Scarlett, Fred Galbraith, Robert Campbell, James Kerr, James Dorrance, George Hearn, Rev. D Carswell, Joseph Dorrance, Andrew Henderson and Robert Govenlock.

Aug. 10, 1908 - Meeting at Calder's Hall. It was agreed that the sum of 10 cents be charged for non-subscribers talking over the line, this to be placed in the rates. The same commissioners were again named and Robert Smith was to be paid 25 cents per hour for repairing the line when needed and the system was to keep all phones in repair. Robert Smith built a 13 mile line and installed 21 phones for $200. Supplies totalled $1461. 52.

In 1909 the line was extended east along con. 6-7 with talk of extending it to Walton and Constance A telephone network was foreseen.

A total of 24 miles of line was built and 40 phones installed costing $459. for telephones and $67. for the extension.

In July of that year the McKillop Telephone System was granted permission to issue a $3,677. debenture for continuing constructions in the township and

extending to points in Grey, Morris and Hallett.

In 1910 93 phones were installed and 35 more miles of line were constructed Mr. Miller and Mr. Scott Hawthorne were also building lines. Commissioners were James Kerr, J Cuthill and J M Govenlock. One hundred dollars was paid back to early subscribers. Balance in treasury in Jan. 1915 was $400

Commissioners were Govenlock, Hearn, James Snell and Dr. Charles McGregor.

In March 1916, a heavy sleet storm raised havoc to the line running out the north from the town limits to Robert Grieve's with every pole broken in the mile stretch and the wire was in a tangled mess. Thoughts were then given to enclose wires in cables.

Commissioners in 1921 were: Charles McGregor, W R Snell and J M Govenlock. In 1921 Matt Armstrong was president, John Eckert, Treasurer and J. M Govenlock, secretary.

In December 1934 there were 184 miles of poles, 513 miles of single wire and 408 telephones. Commissioners were Matt Armstrong, A A Cuthill and J M Eckert.

In 1940 J. M. Eckert was president and two years later was again treasurer.

In 1947 James B Hogg was replaced by Frank Kirkby as commissioner.

The late John Kellar served as linesman for many years Ross Murdie who was secretary for many years was replaced in 1946 by J M Eckert who held the position until 1962 - 38 years.

Commissioners in 1950 were M. Armstrong, G McGavin and George R Campbell and in 1951 M. Armstrong was re-elected chairman - a member for 20 years. He died in Feb. 1955 at 90 years

That year the work of rebuilding the line north of Seaforth began - 60 poles were removed from roadsides and circuits were split in preparation for the change to dial. Geo. R Campbell became president and the change

to dial was estimated to cost $4300.

The first dial telephone was installed in the Willis Van Egmond home, No. 4 highway, Hullett township. The McKillop system now operates in Hullett, Grey, Morris, Goderich townships having dropped Tuckersmith in July 1966.

In 1959 the underground system was extended and it was said that 'talking too much on the lines was spoiling the service for others '

The change to dial was made complete on Nov. 14, 1965; George R Campbell was chairman in 1965; Harry Snell in 1966 and Wm J Leeming in 1967. The commissioners in 1967 are the same; James F. Keys is secretary-treasurer and George Hibbert, lineman.

Following studies of proposals to amalgamate with the Blyth and Brussels telephone systems in the formation of a new company which the commission had been carrying on for some months, subscribers, at a special meeting on June 12, 1967 at Winthrop, rejected the suggestion and approved an offer of Bell Telephone Company to purchase the system for $80,000. effective December 31, 1967.

WINTHROP AND 'THE WEE STORE"

The Winthrop store has been a service in the area for over 100 years - not the same store but in practically the same location. Alex Murchie, the first owner, came to Canada with his wife and two small daughters in 1858 and constructed a dwelling a few miles north of Seaforth at a corner of the north gravel road, called Ballabay or Bailey Bay. He fenced some land, put a roof on his house and called it home. Several years later he stacked it with merchandise to trade with the increasing number of pioneer farmers, then opened a post office and the spot was called Winthrop.

About 1887 work began to drain the useless b og swamp that lay around the area. More settlers began to come in - the "wee store" did quite a business as did

the saw and grist mill, two blacksmith shops, two taverns (one a hotel), a brick yard, and a cheese and butter factory with a large hog pen nearby.

Times were good at Winthrop but Mr. Murchie died. His wife continued with the business and had the post office fitted with boxes for the mail. A daughter married and moved to Walton. Mrs. Murchie died Dec. 31, 1913. Her daughter Katie, who had helped her, moved to Seaforth.

John Montgomery then bought the business and operated it until 1951. With his family grown and away the Montgomerys sold to Austin Dolmage. By then the country round about was well settled, the community weakened, the bustling mills became quiet, the blacksmith shop vacant, sons and daughters moved to greener fields and Winthrop realized its new identity, as just a corner with a church, a school, a store, a few houses and one last mill.

Then - a sign - "For Sale - The Wee Store", size 18 by 27 feet. Can be torn down or moved - signed Austin Dolmage. He was the third and last owner in almost 100 years. Less than a year later he built another store in its place - directly behind where it had stood so long, but had been torn down. The next owner of the new store was Stanley M Gillies, and Mr. Dolmage bought the residence of the late R K McFarlane in the village.

Lloyd McCluskie took over the business in 1958, erected a large addition and made several other improvements. He still operates the store in 1967.

Alex A. Cuthill at one time also built a store in Winthrop, later operated by Kenneth Bennett. William Bullard and his son Jack operated a blacksmith shop. Fred Horne owned a wagon shop and a Mr. Horney had a buggy factory east of the corner and a hotel stood at the northeast corner. In 1962 the Winthrop Mill, which had been owned by Ephriam Haase, was sold to Dolmage Milling Company.

The Govenlock Mills - June 3, 1875 - fire destroyed the saw mill owned by John Govenlock and operated by Andrew Govenlock. It had cost $5000. to build and $5000. worth of lumber was also lost. It was rebuilt and in 1880 had a windmill installed over his well for his saw and grist mill. A news item in March 1889 stated that around Andrew Govenlock's saw mill, grist mill and general store, Winthrop was booming. Robert Govenlock died in 1920, he had lived in McKillop 50 years. Besides being an overseer of the businesses, he was an elder in Winthrop Church for 15 years and active in Sunday School work.

The village also boasts a four-acre recreation field.

A bright spot in the village is the modern new township municipal building built in 1965 costing around $10,000., Bernard Ten Pas and Sons, Brussels, was the contractor. On Friday, Nov. 26, 1965, the Hon. C. S MacNaughton, then Minister of Highways, officially opened the building. Several other dignitaries were in attendance.

THE McKILLOP MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

This company originated at a meeting of interested persons held in the Commercial Hotel on Wednesday, March 1, 1876. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the formation of a farmer's fire insurance company. When the company was formed the above name was chosen. Later the same month at a meeting more than the amount of insurance required for organization was secured. The directors were elected on April 3, five from each of the townships of McKillop, Tuckersmith and Hallett, then a few days later the following officers were elected: president, G. E. Cresswell; vice - president, W. J. Shannon; secretary-treasurer, M. Y. McLean. The first agents appointed were David Sproat, Robert McMillan and Thomas Neilands. McKillop direc-

tors were: Robert Govenlock, T. E. Hays, John Thompson, James Scott, W. J Shannon, Tuckersmith; G E. Cresswell, James Landesborough, Robert Elgie, F. Fowler, Sr., James McDonald, Hullett; John McMillan, GeorgeWatt, Thomas Moon, Robert McMichael, T Neilands (replaced by John Britton).

In a short time applications for insurance totalled $160,000. In four months this had doubled with 342 members and no losses by fire. Nine months later the first fire loss was given as $115.

For some time five directors, all from one township, retired annually.

The second president was W. J. Shannon followed by John McMillan of Hullett. Then James Kerr of McKillop was president for four years.

The use of steam operated threshers caused the company great concern by 1884. The farmer who was having threshing done was obliged to have a ladder long enough to reach at least two feet above the barn eaves during the whole time threshing was in progress. Membership fee was reduced from $1 50 to $1.00 and livestock belonging to the insured was to be rated as contents of a building struck by lightning.

T E. Hays was president in 1885 and membership reached 1656. In 1892 he was succeeded by D. Ross, Stanley Township, who died in 1895. Directors were now from Stanley, Hibbert and Goderich townships as well George Watt was then president for three years followed by J. B. McLean, Kippen from 1898 to 1916 (18 years); James Connolly of Goderich township was the next president, until 1926 at least, perhaps longer. Robert Archibald was president in the 1950 s and John L. Malone in the 1960's.

The 1967 officers are: president - Wm. R. Pepper, Brucefield; Wm. S Alexander, R.R #2, Walton; Mrs. Keith Sharp, R R #2, Seaforth is secretary-treasurer. From 1876 to 1958 - 79 years - there were only five secretary-treasurers. They were: M. Y. McLean,

two years; W J. Shannon, 1878 - 1900; T E. Hays, 1901 - 1923; D. F. McGregor, 1924 - 1932; M. A. Reid, 1933 - 1958; W. E Southgate, 1958 - 1966; Mrs. Keith Sharp is the present secretary-treasurer.

FRANK KLING, LIMITED.

Since pioneer times a source of gravel for district buildings and roads and stone and sand deposits have come from lot 22, con. 2, McKillop. This deposit has gained new importance with the introduction of modern machinery. During the many years in which the farm has produced gravel, the total produced has not equalled the production of the past few years.

Until power-driven equipment was introduced, gravel to a great extent was shovelled by hand onto horse-drawn wagons To-day multi-wheeled trucks carry loads equal to 25 of the wagons in use 30 years ago Crushing and loading gravel used to be dangerous and backbreaking and accidents were frequent. A recent owner, George Aberhart, died in 1948 from a pit accident

Now all material is handled mechanically. Large shovels, stationed in the pit, load trucks which carry the stone to a hopper at the crusher site. Here fine material drops through a grating onto a moving belt and into a secondary crusher Large stones go first to a primary crusher and broken pieces are fed onto a belt and into a second crusher. From here the material is carried by conveyor to a washing process, on the way being screened and separated into sand and stones of various sizes After washing, the material is again carried to bins for direct loading into trucks. Unwashed crushed stone is taken off the conveyor at an earlier stage and loaded directly into separate bins.

The crushing and washing process is continuous and produces finished stone at the rate of a ton a minute. This washing process requires a steady supply of water

which is supplied from a 10-inch well drilled in 1961 by W D. Hopper and Sons, and supplies 300 gallons a minute.

Stone, sand and gravel are delivered by trucks of varying capacities which are loaded by gravity from storage hoppers. As loaded trucks leave they are weighed on platform scales that automatically print the load's weight. Scales, 50 feet in length weigh loads up to 50 tons. Aggregates from the Kling pits are used in increasing quantities for concrete requirements and for asphalt road construction over a wide area.

The site of the present pit was cleared as a farm by Robert Turnbull who came to McKillop from Scotland in 1850. Remembering his native community he called his new home Dunniplace - a name which it carried for many years. Following his death the farm continued in the Turnbull family until the death of his son, George (father of Miss Mabel Turnbull, Seaforth). It was sold in the early 1920's to George Aberhart and purchased in 1959 by Frank Kling from Henry Lawrence.

While deposits on the property were always regarded as a source of gravel and sand, the pits were not operated commercially to any extent before the turn of the century. When selling gravel George Turnbull stated, "It is like selling your farm by the load'.

Organizations

THE SEAFORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

As this is a better than average rural area, not just McKillop, but Tuckersmith, Hullett, Hibbert and Stanley townships as well, it would be a mistake not to include the Seaforth Agricultural Society. Located and operated in McKillop township since 1900, the society has been held in three different locations with three different names. When first organized and held in Harpurhey it was known as the Harpurhey Agriculture Society. The second location in 1861 was in Tuckersmith township at what is now the town's west end where the public school and Neil Bell's Shell Service Station are and the society was known as the Tuckersmith Branch Agriculture Society

(By early regulations of the Department of Agriculture, the society was to assume the name of its location - this regulation being later removed)

The conditions at the second location became inadequate and also because of the burning under mysterious circumstances of the large exhibits building and poultry accommodation in 1898, another location was sought. Records show that because of this loss no fair was held in 1899.

In the meantime the Seaforth Turf Association had been operating a half-mile race track on the

second field back from the north road on Thomas Lapslie's farm, now owned by Gordon Elliott. In 1899 this association bought land from Ed. Coleman and built a race track where it is to-day (This is the fourth track in the Seaforth area, two earlier ones being at the west end). When the track and land around it was put up for auction in 1900 the Agricultural Society purchased it. To absorb the $1000 mortgage held by George McCartney, the town of Seaforth and the townships of McKillop and Tuckersmith each contributed $100 and Thomas Scott made up the $700 balance.

Land was also purchased from William Duggan on which was built the unique substantial exhibition hall. That parcel of land on which the Seaforth Community Centre stands was transferred to the Town of Seaforth with an agreement that the society have free use of Centre for specified periods. The livestock accommodations on the grounds are excellent.

In connection with the society's 110th anniversary in 1955, a cement platform, speakers' and judges' stand complete with pylon and plaque were built. The unveiling ceremonies were carried out by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Louis Breithaupt.

Although faced with financial problems at times due mainly to bad weather conditions, the fair has continued to grow and has been of service as an agricultural showplace for the community and large area surrounding it for a total of 122 years - surely an enviable record.

In 1959 the fair was granted a Class 'B" status, being the only one in Huron County to obtain such a rating and since that time has had an organized Junior Fair working within its organization. 'Huron's Oldest and Only Class' B' Fair Where Juniors Reign Supreme".

McKILLOP SCHOOL FAIR

In the spring of 1915 an invitation was sent to the school boards of the southern portion of McKillop town-

ship, asking the trustees to meet at S S No. 4 to discuss the formation of a school fair. Representing the various schools were: U S. S. No. 1 - John Lane, John Balge; No. 13 - Joseph Scott, Duncan McCowan; No. 2 - William McClure, Alfred B rown; No. 10 - George McGee, John Shannon; No. 6 - Thomas Bolton, Sam Smith; No. 8 - George F Benneweis, John Murray; Beechwood No. 3 - Thomas Moylan, Ed. Horan; St. Columban - P. V Mc-Grath, James Sullivan; No. 4 - William Beat tie, Robert Gibson.

A decision was made to hold a school fair in September at No. 4 school with William Beattie as president and Foster Fowler as secretary-treasurer

The event was sponsored by Dr. Field, school inspector, and assisted greatly. 'What a success those fairs were', quotes Mr. Fowler. The many classes of livestock, poultry, vegetables, fruit, flowers and school work were full. The Seaforth band led the parade of school children, assisted by Roy Fletcher as 'Jiggs" and Oliver Elliott as 'Maggie', as entertainers. There never was a dull moment

Prizes were donated by every merchant of Sea-forth, Dublin, Brodhagen, Beechwood and St Columban.

The school fair was discontinued in 1918 to be started again with many new features in 1948 and held at No. 6. For that year the officers were - president - Ed. Godkin; secretary-treasurer, Foster Fowler. School representatives were - No. 1 - John E. Murray, teacher, Reta Foster; No. 2 - William Dodds, teacher, Ann Brunk; No. 3 - James McQuaid, teachers, Mother Mary Alice and Mother St. Louis; No. 4 - Robert W. Campbell, teacher, Mrs. E J Weber; No. 6 - James Sloan, teacher, F. Fowler; No. 7 - Charles Boyd, teach-er Edwin Litt; No. 8 - Leslie Beuerman, teacher Flor-ence Brown; No. 9 - William Dennis, teacher Marion Kale; No. 10 - Alan Campbell, teacher, Mrs. John Kell-ar; No. 12 - James Hogg, teacher, Mrs. McDonald.

The school parade and sports were held on Frank

Johnston's farm and Gordon McGavin's exhibit of implements and the livestock show was held across the road at Dyke Wheatley's. Harvey McLlwain had his ponies there for the children. Mac Bolton, aged 13, demonstrated his invention of a child's wagon driven by a motor from a lawn mower. Mr. McGavin gave a demonstration of an old-time wood-splitting machine - a very rare and powerful machine.

The parade was led by the Brodhagen Band. Dan Beuerman, reeve of McKillop, officially welcomed the gathering. J. H. Kinkead, inspector, judged the school work.

Olene Godkin, S S 6, won the public speaking competition. Lorene Doerr was declared "Miss McKillop" and Joanne Beuerman, S S. 8 (age 10) was winner in the junior class. Gilbert Murray, S S. 6, with 150 points, was winner in the livestock competition.

Kenneth Stewart was president in 1955 followed by William Boyd, with Harold Pryce and Gordon Papple as vice-presidents. Mr. Stewart was secretary-treasurer Bill Henderson offered to pay poultry prizes for those winning that were purchased from him.

In 1956 the McKillop school fair was invited to join with the Seaforth Fall Fair but it was not accepted. W. H Golding, M P was asked to open the 1956 fair and Archie Mann was engaged to supply entertainment.

The 1957 fair was also held at No. 6 with William Boyd as president, Gordon Papple as first vice-president and Mervin Dietz as second vice-president. Ken Stewart continued as secretary-treasurer. Many changes were made in the prize list from year to year.

Jerry Montgomery was replaced by D H Miles as agricultural representative.

The 1957 and '58 fairs were held at No. 10, Winthrop. Gordon Papple was president in 1958 with Mervin Dietz and Ralph McNichol as vice-presidents. William Dennis was secretary-treasurer for several years at a salary of $30. a year.

In 1958, 224 school children participated in the fair Choral reading and baby shows were features of several fairs and judges received boxes of chocolates as tokens of appreciation. The 1958 fair had a public address system through courtesy of Mr. Gingerich.

A dance in the township shed concluded the 1958 fair.

The 1959 fair was also held at Winthrop with G Papple as president with M. Dietz and R. McNichol as vice-presidents and W Dennis, secretary-treasurer. Seaforth Lions Club was given $5.00 for use of tables. Total receipts for the '59 fair were $809.00 with $655.75 expenditure with 217 pupils participating.

Officers for 1960 were: president, G. Papple; vice-presidents, R. McNichol and Roy Wildfong with W. Dennis, secretary.

Warden John Durnin opened the 1960 fair. A monster dance and draw was held at Brodhagen with total receipts of $527.80. Balance from fair and dance totalled $439.12.

Officers for 1961 were: president, Ralph McNichol, vice presidents, Roy Wildfong and Fred Rose with Campbell Wey as secretary-treasurer. A. Y McLean opened the '61 fair.

This was apparently the last fair with a balance of $6.57 on hand. Weather and accommodation proved to be problems.

WALTON COMMUNITY HALL

The lovely little Walton Community Hall has served that area well in several ways and in various locations over the past 94 years. Its use has ranged from fervent prayer meetings, lodge meetings and euchre parties to community concerts and dances. It is located on the south or McKillop side of County Road 25 - (which is the boundary between McKillop on the south and Grey

and Morris on the north).

Early in 1870 the New Connexion Methodists of Seaforth formed a congregation near Walton with services held in Leadbury schoolhouse (S. S. 7). A pastor from Seaforth conducted weekly services.

A church built in 1873 first served this newly formed group, linked with the Brussels circuit It was built on the corner of con. 14 McKillop and North Gravel Road - formerly the Nelson Reid farm now owned by Lawrence Ryan. Rev. Robert Davey was the first pastor followed by Rev. C. E Stafford.

In 1874 Walton became head of the circuit and a church was formed at Bethel. During Rev. R S. Barker's time the church was moved to a more central location on the north side of County Road 12, Grey Township. Headed by a Mr. Riley from near Londesboro, three men of the congregation - George Grigg, John Berry and William J. Bennett helped move the 32 year old building to Walton where it was placed on a cement wall at the east end of the village a few hundred feet east of St. George's Anglican Church - where Ed. Davidson lived in 1958. The wall was built by George Barcliff, a Brussels contractor along with Jim Gibson, Bill Anderson and Bill Bennett.

At the time of Church Union in 1925 when the Congregational, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Canada united, this Methodist group joined Duff's Presbyterian Church at the north end of the village and formed a new congregation.

That left the building vacant and it was next purchased by L. O L No. 252, Walton and used as a lodge hall until 1938.

Enterprising citizens of the village, in search of a building for community activities, formed a committee to bargain with the non-operating lodge group for the use of the hall. The lodge, reserving certain privileges, agreed to sell the building to them for $50.

When the papers were duly signed, the community

group, bolstered by the sale of $5.00 shares in the building, decided to move it to a more central location. The necessary land was made available in return for one share by William Humphries, on the old Neal property.' The building was then moved to its present location - on the south side of County Road 25, McKillop, at the south end of the business section on the boundary.

Following various bees the building was completely renovated indoors and out. It is kept painted and the area is nicely planted outdoors each summer and is used for various community activities including Walton Women's Institute meetings.

When the building was used as a church, the first Sunday School superintendent was Gilbert Thompson, Mary Pollard was the organist and class leaders were M. Morrison, C Dennis and W Pollard. At a giant jubilee in 1923 the church was crowded and a former Walton boy, Rev. Archie McKibbon of Fingal was the special speaker.

During the 52 years it served as a church there were 28 pastors and young men of the congregation who entered the ministry including A. McKibbon, De Witt Cosens and Sidney Hewitt who lost his life in the first World War.

Howard Hackwell lives in the parsonage and his garden is where the church stood.

In 1958 when the lodge was completely done over, a grand opening featured a concert of local talent and a dance.

Now in 1967, the building has been in use for about 30 years with a recreation field close by. This four-acre lot was purchased in 1945 from George Jackson for $100. an acre. Over $500. was collected canvassing. The grounds are controlled by the hall trustees and are used for ball, soccer and picnics. In 1948 - 50 there were 87 shareholders. Various presidents have been Silas Johnston, Wilfred Shortreed, Roy Bennett, Norman Williamson and others.

WINTHROP LOYAL ORANGE LODGE NO. 813
1857 - 1967

L. O. L. 813 celebrated its 100th anniversary with a centennial banquet in 1957 The lodge was instituted on February 11th, 1857 and Joseph Watson was the first Master. James Pryce was the first secretary

Guests attended from Seaforth, Hensall, Wingham and Grand Bend. Joseph Caldwell was County Master for South Huron. David Boyd was the oldest member present having joined in May 12, 1887.

The first meeting was on March 3, 1857 and meetings continued from then until November 1860 in a room at the farm of Thompson Morrison - later Irvin Trewarthas. For a couple of years the lodge met in Sam McSpadden's home in the village.

In December 1862, the first lodge hall was built on the corner of Samuel Scarlett's farm - now Harold Pryce s. A red frame building, it was used for 41 years. In 1903 they bought the Smith Baptist Church (now Louis Bolton's farm) and moved it to a site on the James H. Campbell farm, the first meeting being held in December of that year. It was used as a lodge room until July 1926. That same spring, the building still used, was bought and alterations made. The building stands on the north-east corner at Winthrop. It was the former Calder Cheese factory built in 1872.

In 1947 further alterations were made - a cement foundation was built and the bottom part made into a garage (now used by McKillop Municipal Telephone System). The stage was lowered and a band shell put in the side. In 1957, at the time of its centennial, a steel roof was put on.

Laverne Godkin, Master, was chairman for the 100th Anniversary and secretary Kenneth Bettles recalled many past events - in 1895 a picnic was held in Charles Little's bush; in 1903 Princess Alice True Blue Lodge No. 21 went dormant; in 1910 a beautiful banner was bought for $60. and for a number of years it took first prize as

the best in the parade at July 12th celebrations; in 1956 Winthrop No. 813 and Seaforth, No. 793 sponsored "The Glorious Twelfth".

In 1966 Laverne Godkin again became Master. Kenneth Bettles is secretary and Frank Johnston, treasurer.

Other past masters in the last three years have been Laverne Hoegy, Orville Beuerman and Melvin Hulley.

The lodge's Centennial project is the installation of steel siding

McKillop township nomination meetings are held annually in the hall as well and for many years it was a popular dance hall.

Recollections

REMINISCENCES OF ROXBORO

In response to a poem written by John H. Scott and appearing in the Huron Expositor, W. R. Blanchard of Nelson, B. C. wrote - My parents lived near the crossroads, one and one-quarter miles north of Seaforth, sometimes called Mill Road End, as one and one-quarter miles west was Roxboro mill

Approaching the village (Roxboro) from the east we come to T E. Hays residence where he had a bridge over the river to his stone house. On the opposite side of the road lived Willie Aitcheson. Farther on was a brick cottage occupied for a number of years by Robert Hawthorne. Others who lived there were Alf. Brewer, who operated the mill; Johnny Walker who practised taxidermy and horticulture; W. N Watson, storekeeper; James Scott, farm; John Dickson, farm; Wm. Sommers, brick-layer; and others. There was a blacksmith shop, a store or two, a grist mill and a mill pond that backed the water past what is now Maitlandbank Cemetery; the roar of the water over the dam spillway, the hum of the mill stones, the crossroads, the bridge, the deep hole where fishing was good, muskrat houses in winter, skating on the pond the picture setting of the Dickson and Scotts' stone residences on the riverbank among the trees; the spring floods and ice jams taking away bridges

and dams, and the large elm tree in the middle of the road near the lane gate that led along the river bank to Robert Scott's home.

Further along were McDowells, Blacks, and going east on the Roxboro road from the townline bridge - Jimmie Davidson (later Ned Hinchley), the Cash family, Rob McMillan, then Roxboro. Further up the river beyond Hays' bridge were the Govenlocks - Andrew, Tom and Robbie and Jock Grieve's.

Yes, Roxboro was a beautiful setting with its river, rolling hills, picturesque homes and clumps of maple woods.

AN "OLD TIMER" RELATES

On November 13, 1859, the first Methodist sermon was preached in the Seaforth - McKillop area. 'Old Timer's" directions to the exact spot are related thusly - 'Go to the second corner north of Seaforth, turn right (at Grieve's bridge), go to the next corner where there is a little church - Duff's Keep on going past the corner and on the left is the old Beattie homestead. Next came the Lawrence farm which was the land my grandfather cleared and settled on. His name was James Sparling and he was one of the very early settlers in the township (Christopher Sparling, apparently the father of James, died in 1866). The land was bought in 1854. In the old land James Sparling was a local preacher and as soon as he had built a little log house and cleared a bit of land he went among the settlers announcing that he would hold church services in his home '.

According to an article published some time ago in an United Church publication, the first service ever held in this area was conducted in that log house. For a time, apparently, it was part of a circuit with Seaforth and Clinton. It is not known for sure if a church actually existed.

Another account relates that Rev. George H Cornish preached the first sermon, the service being held in the upper room in the new frame house of James Sparling and the room was filled. In 1864 Seaforth left the circuit and it is presumed that Clinton had pulled away at the same time too.

Continuing in a pioneer vein, "Old Timer' said "The early pioneers suffered poverty, loneliness, sickness and often death without even the aid of a doctor. They often had to beat a trail through dense bush, carrying what little grain they had raised to have it ground into meal. Before too long there were mills at Roxboro and Egmondville. To-day we are enjoying the fruits of their never-ending toil. He recalled the old tin forms his grandmother used in which to mould tallow with a piece of yarn or string run through as a wick".

He also describes one of the earliest methods of making soap. "The old ash barrel sat on a platform in the back yard with a piece of tin placed underneath the barrel which formed a funnel at the front, so the liquid coming out through the bottom would run into a pail placed beneath. It became our duty, as boys, to take turns at emptying ashes from the wood cook stove into the barrel. To this was added fat and pork rinds along with some sort of powder (probably borax). Water was poured on top of this and allowed to seep through to the bottom of the barrel and out into the pail. This liquid was emptied into a large boiler and put on the stove to boil until its contents became fairly thick - we thought Mother was performing a miracle when she ended up with lots of soap. Clothes were clean and white when washed and boiled with this soap".

'Old Timer also recalls other interesting times. "Many happy days were spent on the banks of Silver Creek which wended its way through the Case farm. We were allowed to go there as long as no damage was done Also behind the cemetery where the Maitland River flows, the old swimming hole was always another source of

pleasure.

"And there was the old pond on the Coleman property behind where the high school now stands. It always lost a lot of its frog population in the spring and summer to the many boys who played there. In the winter there was always a well-worn track to it through the field. There, we used to clear the ice of snow, put on our spring skates and play shinny. A good stiff tree branch having a crook on the end resembling a hockey stick and with that and a hard rubber ball or chunk of ice, boys would have their game, with no rest periods or hard and fast rules. Sometimes they were so tired they could scarcely walk home"

PIONEER DAYS AS RECALLED BY MELVIN BLANSHARD

' Away back about 75 years ago (1858) a young man from Brockville landed in Harpurhey by train and went north to a place called Roxboro - a small village with a flour mill, a store and some dwelling houses. He got a job at the mill as a mechanic. Then a man called Govenlock decided to build a sawmill one and one-quarter miles up the river to be run by water-power. Mr. Blanchard got the mill running and was then engaged as head sawyer. After a couple of years a brother of Govenlock's decided to build a steam saw mill five miles back in the bush, and again Hiram Blanchard was chosen to build the mill. He and his helpers worked hard getting out timbers, putting up the frame and putting in machinery. They started to saw without any roof or sides on the building as they had to cut the timber for these".

After a number of years, John Govenlock, son of T Govenlock, decided to build another steam saw mill two miles farther north. Hiram Blanshard was again asked to build it and that was the mill at which Melvin Blanshard, the writer, appeared on the scene - a boy of about nine years. It was called Victoria Saw Mill.

He usually spent Saturdays at the mill and he

recalled how he liked the throb of the engines, the noise of the saw, the smell of the timber, the gurgling of the bull-wheel chain, and the ox driver calling to the oxen drawing in the big logs. Often he went with the man who drove them and sometimes, when the log boat was empty, he was allowed to drive the oxen, when he was about 12 years old.

About a dozen men worked around the mill - all big strong jovial fellows who used to carry and throw him about. When night came all would go to supper in a log shanty, the cook being "Daddy"Donaldson. He went along and had supper with the rest, which was mostly potatoes, meat, bread and butter with black strap (molasses) for dessert.

His father died about 1893 at 64 having served his day and generation well. He said a number of barns and houses he built were still standing in 1933. Of a family of nine, three were milling in Northern Ontario and British Columbia - like their father, they followed the timber.

McKILLOP LOGGING BEES SIXTY YEARS AGO

The area for logging was about 10 acres, from which the timber had been cut and the valuable portions taken to the mill. The rest was cut down as it was of no value in those days and lay in fallow for a number of years until a logging bee was held. Preparations for the event was simple. About 20 or 30 hand spikes were cut, trimmed and peeled. Waiting were five or six teams of oxen and horses with chains and strong harness. There were about five men with each team. The fallow was laid out in strips, each gang taking a strip. The rule was that everything had to be cleared out and piled up - stumps, logs, small poplars and willows. The boys had to carry drinking water for the men and the women and girls prepared the meals

'The bee is on' The logs and stumps are beginn-

ing to move and the longer the gang worked the more interest was aroused. The question was - which gang was going to get through to the other side first. What with clanking of chains, snapping of whips, creaking of timber and shouting of men, the race was most exciting. Some gang would win and away they would go to supper. Those left behind would go to supper when their job was finished. After supper out came the fiddle and the dance was on".

'Those days are gone' continued Mr. Blanshard, "and so are the men and women who have done their bit in a humble way, and McKillop is the better to-day for their industry.

'As the old Indian sang as he was being gradually driven out of the woods -

'I am a lone forest Indian who once had a home
In the farthest of forests where wild deer doth roam;
But their forms they have vanished and cold is their clay
For the steel of the white man has swept them away'."

CUTTING AND DRAWING CORD WOOD

'Getting two or three hundred cords of wood cut and piled up ready to draw the next winter was quite a task. However, there were lots of good men in those days and all could handle an axe and endure hard work all day long. I remember my brother and I cut 150 cords for Dr. Gouinlock in the swamp south of Winthrop for 60 cents a cord. We carried our dinner and ate it in the woods.

"The drawing of the wood was the hardest task for the horses and a long, long day for all concerned. The early morning call was 'Hoo How! Jump up boys and get the horses fed. We've got to get that pile of wood out and the pitch-holes are pretty bad. It will be noon before you get out to the salt block!'"

"The women were up at 5.00 a.m. to serve us a hot, hearty breakfast, keep the home fires burning and have a good hot supper ready when we returned home. It was necessary to keep the frying-pan full of meat, pots full of potatoes and to set bread every night. They stayed at home and willingly did their part.

'As the pitch-holes were bad it was quite common to upset a load and break sleighs and harness, but there was always lots of help as nearly everybody was drawing wood or logs. He said he counted as many as 40 teams, at one time, one behind the other. The wood was all burnt at the salt works in Seaforth - thousands and thousands of cords.

"Teamsters would have mishaps - a horse would get its leg broken, or one would just lie down, never to get up again; but the teamster wouldn't quit - he would get a new horse and get going again. He said he remembered the genial old editor of the Huron Expositor - M. Y McLean, who used to sympathize with the teamsters in their accidents and losses, and gave encouragement to keep on going and praise when they won out.

"Those early pioneers left a heritage - those brave Scottish, Irish, English and German ancestors of ours".

The writer of these stories died July 1, 1958 at the age of 93. He was the son of Hiram and his wife, Agnes Cash. He spent his entire life in McKillop until going to Brussels in 1951. His first wife was Betsy Dodds; second wife was Alice Fralick. He had three sons - Thomas and Hiram of McKillop; Melvin of Montreal and one daughter, Mrs. Stanley King of Stratford.

The Blanshards were of United Empire Loyalist stock. William R Blanshard died in Nelson, B C., in 1954. Born near Seaforth, he was the eldest of a family of nine and left school when young to help his father provide for the family. He went to Montreal in 1887; then to near Sudbury where he was a millwright. There he helped clear the forests, built a sawmill and homes -

this place now called Warren. After 14 years there the timber was cleared and the mill closed down. After working in other northern centres he went to Nelson, B. C. where he was an outstanding millright, engineer and builder.

THE BLACKSMITH - A LOST ARTISAN

There is nothing more fascinating than a blacksmith shop. The combination of heat, sweat, sparks and leather aprons produced an atmosphere that had to be experienced to be appreciated. The golden age of the smithy had largely passed before most of us grew old enough for exploration. In the early days of this century, the whole of the local transportation system hinged upon the broad shoulders of the blacksmith. It was not uncommon to see 20 to 30 horses lined up waiting for a shoe job. Horses used to draw drays, carriages and wagons by road to the mills, to church and to shop, covering a lot of miles and their feet needed attention regularly, often every two or three weeks.

With winter came the necessity of having horses sharp-shod. Peculiarities of horses had to be considered. If the horse threw out this was up to the smith to correct. He was not only a smith - he was a foot surgeon. The hoof had to be trimmed and filed before the shoe was fitted - hot, of course. The shoe was heated a glowing red in the forge, fitted, reheated, hammered and refitted until it was the proper fit, then dipped in water to cool, before nailing it in place on the horses foot.

In many cases, padding and weights had to be added to correct the horses gait and generally improve the working efficiency of the animal. There were many trials in the art of shoeing a horse. It undoubtedly took brawn but also required plenty of old-fashioned knowledge.

A blacksmith shop is more than that. Long before days of acetylene and electric welding, the smith

welded in the forge - a trade in itself. The wrought iron or steel to be welded was ground so that pieces to be joined would lie diagonally on each other. Originally borax was used to clean the points and thus aid the fusion. The two pieces were heated together, then taken out and hammered into fusion - really the bouncing of molecules around until those of one section married another

Later on a weld compound was developed which speeded up the operation. The smith welded many things in his forge, including wagon tires, carriage steps, implements, etc The forging and hammering process had to be repeated several times before the operation was complete

Another aspect of the trade was the making and tempering of tools used by stone masons - a lot of heavy work. The business end of the bellows would measure from four to six feet across and an apprentice kept air flowing by working at the end of a long handle. Frequently a cow horn was placed on the "nose" of the handle similar to a pump handle. This smooth grip gave a little extra leverage. The smith comforted the little helper with the tender word that working the bellows would give him the muscle for handling a man's job 'one of these days'.

The smithy must know exactly the proper color at which to pull the chisel or other tool from the fire and douse it in the water barrel. It was a knack possessed by a few and desired by many. An expert in this field drew trade for miles around.

Wagon tires often fell off in extended hot dry spells - the wooden rims and wheels dried out and shrunk - so the tires fell off, often on the road or street. The only remedy was a trip to the smithy. The tire had to be made smaller, so was cut and the circumference of the rim taken by means of a "trailer", which measured the outside and transferred this measurement to the steel tire. The tire was firewelded at this new point, less a little then it was heated causing it to expand. While hot

the tire was slipped over the wheel, doused with water which caused the tire to shrink onto the rim for a tight fit.

The smith was the first auto mechanic as the horseless carriage transformed smithies into garages.' The blacksmith provided a never-failing supply of horse shoes for pitching. Every kid had a court or pad and a fascinating variety of shoes The smith usually threw the stakes in with the deal - you got them for carrying them away. The kid who was envied in the neighborhood was the "expert" who could tell the faults of the particular horse for which any of the odd shoes in the yard had been made to measure.

Then - "Under the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy stands
The smith a mighty man was he with large and sinewy hands'

Now - Under the spreading chestnut tree the village smithy snoozes;
No horse since 1933 has come to him for shoeses.

STATUTE LABOUR

A record dated January 4th, 1841 provides information concerning the Municipal Council of McKillop and Hibbert

'Regulation and Bylaws - 1. Resolved that the height of a lawful fence shall be five feet, six inches and either staked or ridered. 2. No swine to be free at large until upwards of 30 pounds. 3. Horses and sheep shall be free commoners (allowed to roam anywhere for pasture) 4. No breachy animals were to run as free commoners '.

At that time 37 ratepayers were eligible for statute labor. They were the gentlemen who composed the gallant little band of pioneer settlers of the said

townships - Arthur McCann, Hugh McLachlin, Miles McCann, Patrick Carlon, Michael Griffin, Daniel Kernan, Edward Downey, Thomas Fox, James Mollineaux, Adolphus Meyer, William Chalk, John Carl, Archibald Dickson, James Scott, Robert Scott, James, William, John and Richard Cluff, James Young, Alexander Cameron, John Lapslie, Francis Runciman, Pat Lennon, William Lee, Tim Tierney, William Longworth, Dennis Downie, William Keenan, Philip Carlin, John Carlin, Michael McCann, John Bulger, Hugh McIntosh, Robert Calder, Robert Scott, John Henderson, James, John, Hugh and Thomas Grieve, John Govenlock, William Habkirk, C. L VanEgmond, John Laidlaw and James Maxwell.

By 1889, at the end of a half-century, the only representatives left were: William Lee, John Henderson and James Cluff of Seaforth and Robert Scott of Roxboro. Archibald Dickson was elected district councillor for McKillop, Hibbert and Logan - that is, he was the representative to what is now county council.

HURON TRACT CENTENARY 1828 - 1928

August, 1928 - This event was celebrated by the City of Stratford, the towns of Mitchell, Seaforth, Clinton, Goderich, villages and all townships touching on the Huron Tract - now No. 8 Highway. Along the 50 mile Huron road from Goderich to Stratford, six cairns, honoring the pioneers, had been erected. Services of tribute honoring those who had opened up the Huron Tract a century earlier were held at the cairn sites and prizes were awarded for the best decorated gateways along the way. The Huron Tract was the first road through Canada Company's lands.

A long line of motor cars carrying officials and Historical Society officials covered the distance in one and one-half hours of actual travelling. One hundred years earlier John Galt had said 'This road, when

completed, is going to make the journey from Hamilton to Goderich possible in four or five days'.

A cairn honoring Col. Anthony VanEgmond was erected in Harpurhey (one mile west of Seaforth), by McKillop, Tuckersmith and Hullett townships and the Town of Seaforth. 'When the road was first surveyed the country was an unbroken forest, a trackless wilderness. This was the land of our ancestors - the noblest class of pioneers who ever settled any country and directed their footsteps and their vision in order to find and found homes and a land of freedom for themselves and their unborn children", so Thomas McMillan, M. P. for South Huron said as the Cairn was unveiled.

Displayed at farm gates and at cairns were implements of the soil reminiscent of early days in Huron such as ox yokes, spinning wheels, flails, wooden plows.

James Robertson, a Canada Company Commissioner, unveiled the Cairn at Harpurhey. Continuing, Mr. McMillan said, 'This is not a land that was settled by any individual nationality, but rather a land settled by many of the very flower of all of several nationalities - Scotchmen, Englishmen, Irishmen, Dutchmen and German together with the old United Empire Loyalists, who came to hew our earthly homes for themselves and their families. They were missionaries in that particular field of pioneering - missionaries of all religious denominations".

"Why did they come to such a land? Because they left behind them in those older countries, conditions largely akin to serfdom", he continued and told of his father's and mother's struggles in the Old Land.

His mother was Mary Laidlaw - and he told of the connection with the Brine's, Laidlaw's, Walker's, Gillespie's, Dodd's of the Seaforth area; the McDowell's, Fergusons, McMillan's and Hunt's of McKillop; the Gemmell's, Broadfoots, McCartney's and Sinclair's of Tuckersmith, all on his father's side. And on his

mother's side, the Grieve s, Cowan's, Dale's, Munroe's, Knechtel's, Dorrance's, Shannon's and Campbell's.

Telling of the hardship in his homeland, he said potatoes were often all they had in the cupboard in the way of food in the early 1800's. In Scotland he said an ancestor worked 18 hours a day, from 8 a. m. to 10 at night, including Saturday and Sunday, for 18 months, to earn steerage to America. In Scotland men were so plentiful and work so scarce, there were 10 men for every job.

He and his brother and Gilbert McMichael, his wife and two children, set out in a sailing ship and it took 70 days to cross the Atlantic and an additional three weeks in the St. Lawrence River. They made good progress in the daytime but were driven back at night by contrary winds. After reaching Montreal they sailed up the Ottawa River as far as By-town (now Ottawa), then through Rideau Canal to Kingston, to Hamilton. For the balance of the way they either travelled by foot or ox-cart. Once settlers came they had to stay for they had no means to leave.

The McMillans settled in Hullett and McKillop in 1841 where the Dickson's, Scott's, Broadfoot's, Govenlock's, etc. had settled earlier.

The early pioneers", he said, 'were men and women of great character, men of outstanding natural ability and great powers of endurance".

He told of one couple - a Gordon Campbell who married a McMichael. On the morning of the wedding they left a farm in Hullett and McKillop on the town line, walked through woods past the McDowell homestead, crossed the Maitland River at the old brewery, reached the Huron Road at Meyer's Corner (A. D. Scott's and J. F Scott's farm) and walked to Goderich, were married and returned home the same evening.

"The noble, continuous fight which those early pioneers put up to secure the means of sustenance and establish homes is beyond all praise and worthy of high-

est admiration and should inspire us to go forward and carry to greater perfection the splendid work which they had so well begun'.

'Theirs was strenuous exertion", he continued, and they had no time nor thought of enquiring what the government or country could do for them, but rather what they could do for themselves, and so they went to work with stout hearts and willing hands to clear away the forest, make roads, erect homes and barns, establish schools and churches, and in this way make this country blossom like a rose", he concluded.

Prizes for best decorated entrances in this area from Alma Corner to Dublin were: J. W Beattie, W. Jamieson, F. Fowler and William Devereaux.

Municipal Officers

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS OVER THE YEARS

McKillop Township Reeves who became Wardens
1879 - Thomas E. Hays, died in 1929.
1889 - James Hays, died in 1917.
1915 - John M. Govenlock, died in 1951.
1937 - John M. Eckert
1966 - Kenneth Stewart

TOWNSHIP COUNCILS 1843 - 1967

From 1843 - 46, a Mr. Downie (Robert or Edward) represented McKillop and other associated townships, on Huron District Council, with Robert Hays being representative from 1847 - 49. John Govenlock was the first clerk for McKillop, Hibbert and Logan townships and Matthew Ward was assessor. Logan withdrew in 1844 and Dennis Downie was tax collector for McKillop and Hibbert. Town wardens (township councillors) in 1843 were James Grieve, John Laidlaw and Alex Cameron.

In 1850 - Reeve, Robert Hays, representing McKillop and Hullett
Council - Dennis Downie, August Van Egmond, John Bingham, Thomas Govenlock.

Clerk - Robert Cana
Treasurer - Thomas Govenlock
Assessors - Patrick O'Sullivan, Robert McMillan, James Longbottom
Tax Collector - Alex Wilson
Auditors - P. O'Sullivan, George Thompson
Superintendent of Education - Rev. Charles Fletcher

1851 - Reeve, Robert Hays (McKillop and Hullett)
1852 - 53 - 54 - Reeve, Robert Hays (McKillop and Grey)
Clerk - John O'Sullivan (for McKillop in Huron and Hibbert in Perth)
1855 - Reeve, Robert Hays (McKillop, Grey and Howick)
1856 - 58 - Reeve, Dennis Downie and Thomas Govenlock alternately
1859 - Reeve, T. Govenlock
Council - John Elliot, Joseph Evans, Irwin Johnston, Dennis Downey
Clerk - William J Shannon (salary 18 pounds)
1860 - Reeve, T. Govenlock (by motion)
1862- Council - D. Downey, J. Elliot, John O'Sullivan, Robert Scott
Treasurer - R Hays or P. O'Sullivan
Assessor - Jos. Evans
Auditor - John Shannon
Road Inspector - R. Turnbull
1863 - Reeve, Dennis Downey
Council - R. Scott, T. Govenlock, J. O'Sullivan, James Hays.
1864 - Reeve, T Govenlock
Council - J O'Connell, D Downey, R. Scott, J. Hays.
1865 - Reeve, John Elliot
Deputy Reeve - D. Downey (appointed from four councillors)
Council - R Scott, Joseph Evans, J Hays.
1866 - Reeve, Joseph Evans
Deputy Reeve - James Hays

Council - John Horan, R Scott, Samuel Hannah

1867 Reeve, Joseph Evans, Council same.
Assessor Solomon J Shannon

1868 Reeve, J. Evans,
Deputy Reeve - Sam Hannah
Council J Hays, John Malone, J Horan
Clerk - John O'Sullivan
(Minutes signed by Joseph Evans, Reeve of McKillop
Thomas King, Reeve of Hibbert
C. C Johnston, McKillop local superintendent
and Wm. Rath, Hibbert, local superintendent)

1869 - Reeve, Wm. J Shannon
Deputy Reeve - Sam Hannah
Council - J Malone, Robert Pattison, Thomas Davidson

1870 - Reeve, W J Shannon
Deputy Reeve - S Hannah
Council - J Malone, John Horan, Thomas Murray

1871 - Reeve, W J Shannon
Deputy Reeve - James Hays
Council - same.

1872-74 - Reeve, W J Shannon
Deputy Reeve - J. Hays
Council - Wm. Bell, Alex Kerr, Andrew Govenlock

1875 - Reeve, John Govenlock
Deputy Reeve - T E. Hays
Council - A Kerr, W. Bell, J. Malone

1876 - Reeve, Thomas E Hays,
Deputy Reeve - A. Kerr
Council - J. Malone, Wm. Grieve, Wm. Evans.

1877 - Reeve, T E Hays,
Deputy Reeve - A Kerry
Council - Evans, Grieve, J. Horan

1878 - Reeve, T E Hays

Deputy Reeve - A Kerr
Council - Evans, Grieve, James Hillen

1879 - 80. Reeve, T E Hays (McKillop's first warden)
Deputy Reeve Either A Kerr or Wm. Grieve
with Geo. Holland and Wm. Evans, council

188. - Same, except Wm. Evans, deputy reeve

1882 - Reeve, James Hays,
Deputy Reeve - W Evans
Council - Holland, Kerr, Wm. Archibald

1883 - Reeve, J. Hays
Deputy Reeve - Geo. Holland
Council - Archibald, Kerr, Daniel Manley

1884 - Council Archibald, Manley, Michael Murdie

1885 - 86 Reeve, J Hays
Deputy Reeve - D Manley
Council - Archibald, Murdie, R G Ross

1887 - 88 Reeve, J Hays
Deputy Reeve - Robert G. Ross
Council - Alex Murchie, Chas. Dodds, John Benneweis

1889 - Reeve, James Hays (McKillop's second reeve)
Deputy Reeve - J Benneweis
Council - J Evans, John Morrison, C Dodds
Clerk - John C. Morrison

1890 - Reeve, J. Benneweis
Deputy Reeve - J. Morrison
Council - D. Manley, J Evans, C Dodds

1891 92 - Council - Manley, Evans, Wm. Archibald

1893 - 94 - Reeve, J. Benneweis
Deputy Reeve - James Evans
Council - Manley, Archibald, Wm. McGavin

1895 - Deputy Reeve - Wm Archibald
Assessor - Wm Evans
Treasurer - S J Shannon
Tax Collector - C. Dodds

1896 - 97 - Reeve, John Morrison
Deputy Reeve, Archibald
Council - D Manley, McGavin, Joseph C. Morr-

ison
Clerk - Continues to be John C Morrison

1898 - Reeve, John Morrison
Deputy Reeve - D. Manley
Council - McGavin, Jos. C. Morrison, John S. Brown

1899 - Reeve received $50. and Councillors $45. each
Reeve - John Morrison replaced by James Lockhart in late 1899 and again was reeve in 1890
Mr. Morrison died in 1904.

1900 - Council - Arch. McGregor, J O'Loughlin, Alex Gardner, J G. Grieve.

1901 - Reeve, D Manley
Council - Same

1902 - Reeve, Michael Murdie
Council - A. McGregor, J O'Loughlin, John S. Brown, Charles Little

1903 - Reeve, M Murdie
Council - J. Brown, C. Little, Wm. G. Smith, John Murray

1904 - Reeve, M Murdie
Council - John M. Govenlock, J. Brown, C. Little, J Murray

1905 - Reeve, D Manley
Council - J M Govenlock, C Little, F. J. McQuaid, Michael Rowland
Clerk - John C. Morrison, died 1905
Sol. J Shannon completed the term as Clerk

1906 - Reeve, John M Govenlock until 1919 and warden in 1915.
Council - John McDowell, F J McQuaid, Henry Beuerman, M Rowland
Clerk - Michael Murdie

1907 - Council - J. McDowell, Alex Ross, James V Ryan, James Cowan

1908 - Council - H Beuerman, Ross, Cowan, Thos. Murray

1909 - 10 - Council - Beuerman, Cowan, Albert Dundas,

F J McQuaid

1911 - Council - Beuerman, Cowan, McQuaid, James S. Smith

1912 - Council - Conrad Eckert, Thomas Purcell, John Balfour, John Govenlock

1913 - Council - F. McQuaid, C. Eckert, J Govenlock, R. Archibald

1914 - Council - McQuaid, Eckert, Archibald, D Regele

1915 - Council - Geo. Hearn, McQuaid, Regele, J. Govenlock

1916 - 18 - Council - Geo. Harn, McQuaid, Regele, John Dodds

1919 - Council - Harn, Regele, McQuaid, Robert Reid

1920 - 28 - Reeve - Frank J. McQuaid (succeeding J. M. Govenlock 1906 - 1919)

Council - J Scott, Regele, Ed. Horan, J Dodds

1921 - 26 - Council - Dodds, Regele, Horan, F. Bruce Medd

Clerk - John McNay succeeding M. Murdie (1906 - 1920 or part of 1921)

1927 - Council - Dodds, Regele, Thos McKay, John M. Eckert

1928 - Council - Regele, McKay, Eckert, John Campbell

1929 - Reeve, John Dodds,

Council - Same

1930 - Reeve, J Dodds

Council - Regele, McKay, Campbell, N. R Dorrance

1931 - Reeve, John M Eckert

Council - Campbell, McKay, Dorrance, Jos. O'Rourke

1932 - Reeve, John Campbell

Council - H Alexander, Regele, Dorrance, O'Rourke

1933 - 37 - Reeve, J. M. Eckert (reeve to 1938 - fourth warden in 1937)

Council - Alexander, O'Rourke, Dorrance, E. Hackwell

1938 - Council - Alexander, Dorrance, Hackwell, P. E. Maloney

1939 - Reeve, N. R Dorrance (until death in 1947)
Council - Hackwell, Maloney, Chas. Dolmage, , Albert Harrison (same council 1940-41-42)

1943 - 44 - Council - Dolmage, Harrison, Maloney, Dan Beuerman
Clerk - John C McNay, died 1942 - succeeded by J. M Eckert

1945 - 47 - Council - D. Beuerman, Geo. R. Campbell, Frank Kirkby, Matthew Murray

1948 - Reeve, Dan Beuerman (1948 - 1963 - 16 years)
Council - Frank Kirkby, M. Murray, Jas. T. Scott, Albert Siemon

1949 - Reeve, Dan Beuerman
51 Council - Wilson Little, Murray, Scott, Siemon

1952 - 55 - Reeve, Dan Beuerman
Council - Jerry Doerr, Little, Earl Mills, Siemon

1956 - 57 - Reeve, Dan Beuerman
Council - Doerr, Little, Mills, Herb Williamson

1958 - Reeve, Dan Beuerman
60. Council - Doerr, Williamson, Sam McClure, Wm.
1961- Ryan
1963. Reeve, Dan Beuerman
Council - Allan Campbell, Wm. Dennis, Ralph McNichol, Kenneth Stewart

1964 - 67 - Reeve, Kenneth Stewart
Council - Harold Dodds, Campbell, Dennis, McNichol

John M Eckert, who served as reeve from 1931 to 1938 with the exception of 1932, was warden in 1937.

For King and Country

Area residents who gave their lives for King and Country, including many from McKillop, are:-

A. W. Archibald
Albert Bates
Bernard Brown
John E. Bullard
Douglas Calder
Herb Chapman
Francis N. Cluff
Rollo E. Cook
E. Cecil Dilling
Sam H. Dorrance
Thomas Edgar
Thos. E. Govenlock
Clarence S. Garden
James Hutchinson
J. Scott Hays
Wm. H. Hall
Wm. Hart
W. Stanley Hays
James Horan
James Jamieson
George Mulholland
Arthur McLean
Charles McNamara
John McLeod
Arthur C. Neely
A. T Parke
John J. Purcell
R. E. Rivers
Manson Reeves
J. Leslie Reid
Charles Rolph
Clifford W. Ruffell
Russel G. Scott
James Spearpoint
Percy Vanner
Francis Weiland
George Weiland
Frederick Weir
Clarence Westcott
Robert I. West

Century Farms

Name	Address	Lot	Con.
John Shea, Sr.	R. R. #5, Seaforth	11	4
John W. Thompson	R. R. #2, Seaforth	34	7
Wm. James Storey	R. R. #2, Seaforth S1/2	30	5
Sam J. Scott	R. R. #2, Seaforth	31	2
James O'Sullivan	R. R. #4, Seaforth	12	1
John Moylan	R. R. #5, Seaforth	10	6
James McQuaid	R. R. #5, Seaforth S1/2	10	3
Joseph McLaughlin	R. R. #2, Walton	5	11
R. S McKercher	R. R. #1, Dublin	13	6
William McDowell	R. R. #2, Seaforth	34	2
Nelson McClure	R. R. #2, Seaforth	32	4
Thomas Kale	R. R. #5, Seaforth	15	2
Harry Johnston	R. R. #1, Dublin	16	9
Thomas Govenlock	R. R. #5, Seaforth	26	3
William R. Flanagan,	R. R. #1, Dublin	2	6
Richard Downey	R. R. #5, Seaforth	10	4
William T. Dodds	R. R. #1, Seaforth	31	7
Arthur Devereaux	R R. #4, Seaforth	22	1
Robert W. Campbell	R. R. #1, Dublin	19	7
Harold Bolton	R. R. #1, Dublin	15	8
Norman Beuerman	R. R. #1, Dublin	5 & 6	8
Fred Bennewies	R. R. #1, Bornholm	1	9
Arthur Alexander	Walton	31	10
Harry Regele	R R. #1, Dublin	3	9

Fond Memories

by
Vincent J. Lane

Another old tradition has faded out of sight -
The custom of the family trip to town on Saturday night.
Saturday night on Main Street was always a big affair,
And everyone from Joe and Dick did congregate there.

Folks did a lot of shopping, there is no doubt of that;
But it took second fiddle to the regular friendly chat.
The children had a dime to spend for a hot dog and a cone,
The little girls could buy a ring with a lovely shining stone.

For those who do remember - Agree? I think you will -
You could get as much in those times as for now a dollar bill.
Mother got the groceries and yard goods for a trade -
Perhaps for potatoes or some eggs or butter she had made.

Recall when hockey you could see three games for fifteen cents;
While just the other day it cost "two bucks" for kids and gents.
Oh yes, those days have come and gone - it is progress, if you will -
Don't be surprised to learn some day, they've scrapped the dollar bill!

Conclusion

by Mrs. Joseph Grummett

I hope you enjoy the story - it is really only a small portion of the events which took place over a period of 140 years. There were happy times, sad times and best of all - busy times, for when people are busy they are accomplishing things - things which make for progress and better living.

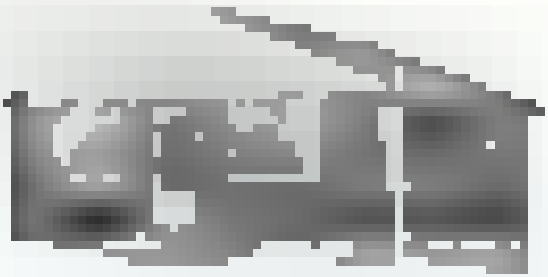
Are the people in McKillop becoming too unconcerned about their municipal life? We squeal when things don't suit us - taxes are too high; there isn't enough work done on the roads in my section, and so on, but what do we do about it.

In the past, nominations were well attended and at one meeting 14 persons were nominated for the offices of reeve and council.

I hope you will forgive all errors and omissions. Some of the names may not be spelled correctly but I used the spelling which was used in the minutes or the newspapers.

Those responsible for the preparation of this history are indebted to many area residents and former residents for their assistance and co-operation in making available the documents and information that provide the basis for these pages. Among these are: -

Arthur Bolton
Russell Bolton
William Dennis
J. M. Eckert
C. E Flynn
Foster Fowler
Vera Haist
The Huron Expositor
Vincent J. Lane
Clarence Maloney
Mrs. R. K. McFarlane
Mrs. Gordon McKenzie
Donald McKercher
Robert E. McMillan
Earl McSpadden
Mrs. Gordon Papple
Jean Scott
Sam Scott
Mrs. Joseph Shea
James Sloan
Mrs. Kenneth Stewart
Campbell Wey



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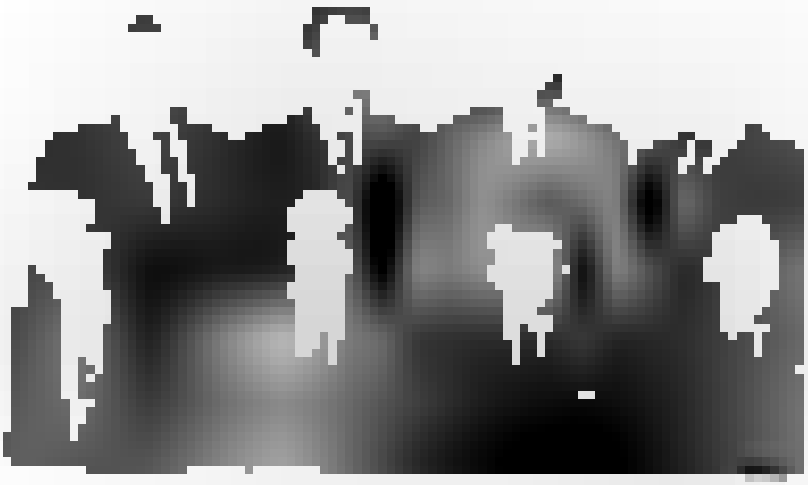
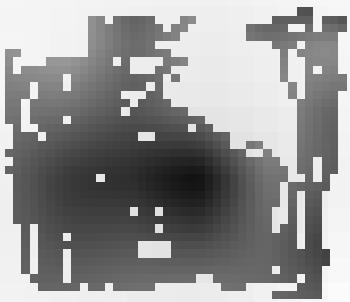
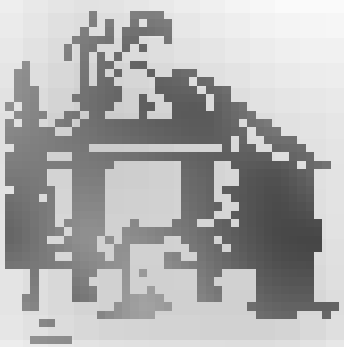
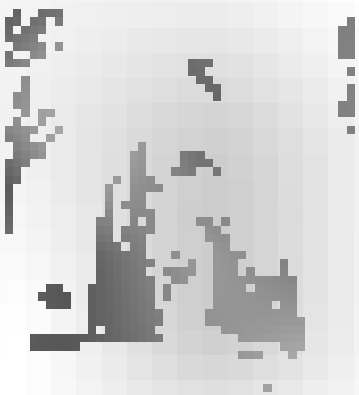
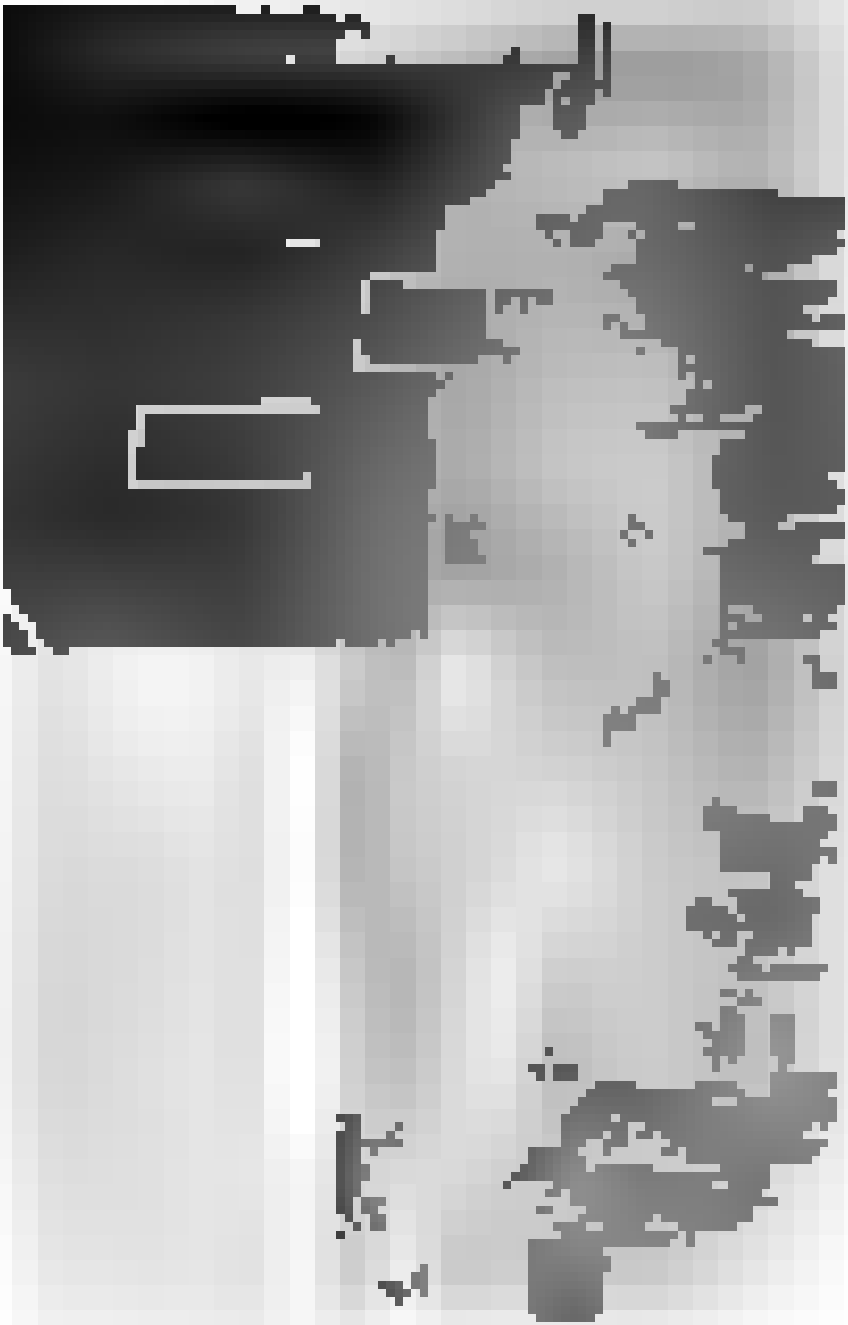
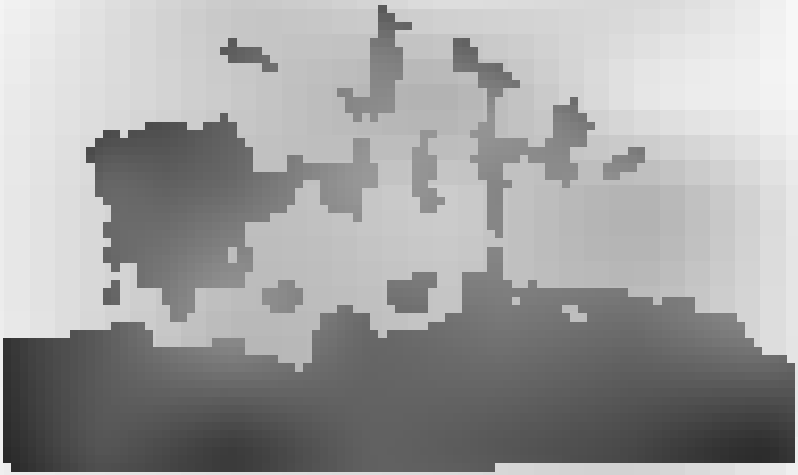
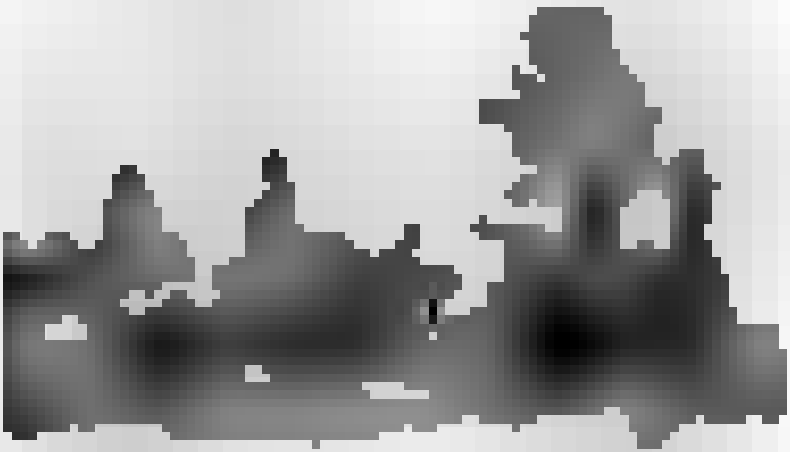
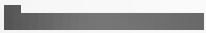
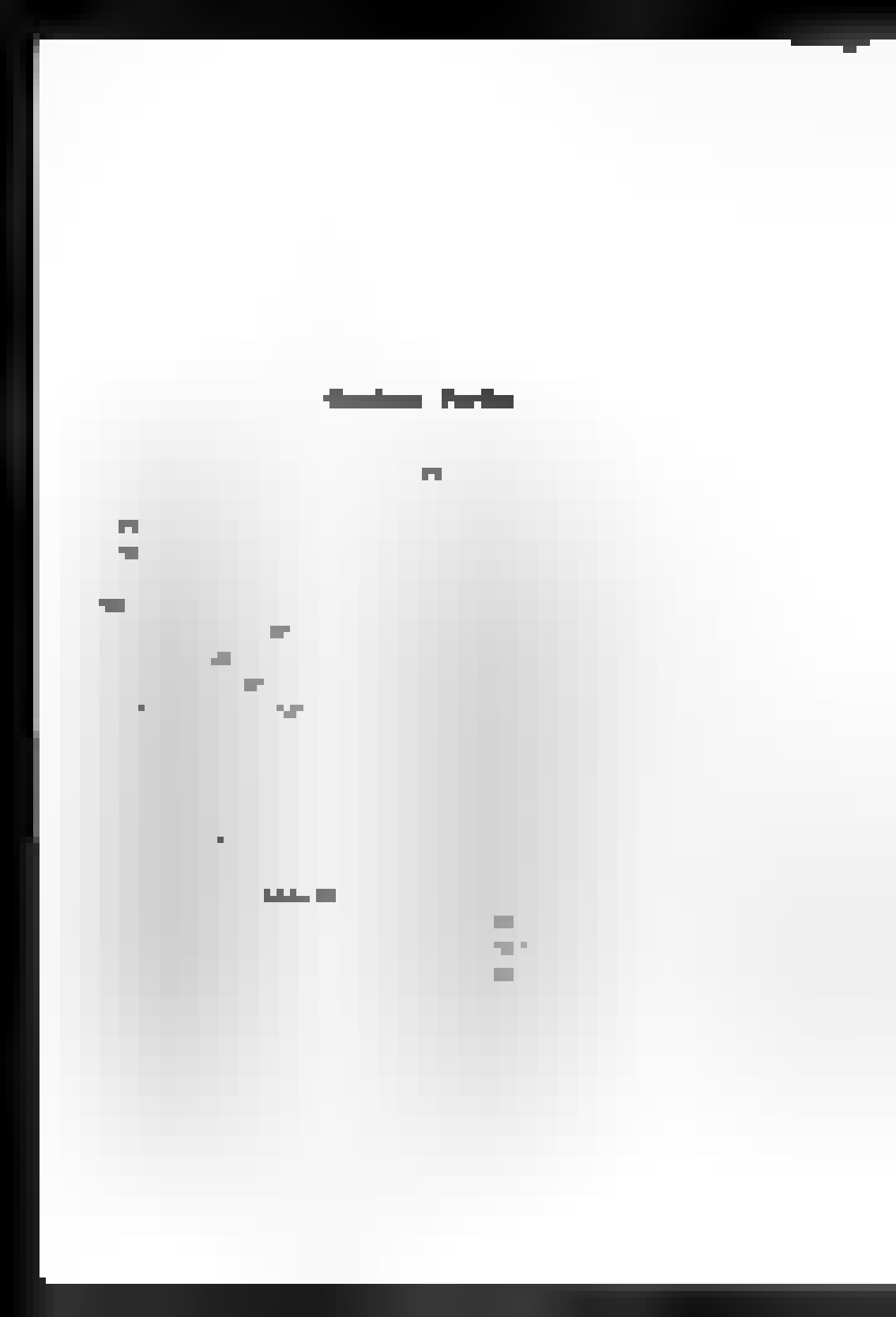
McKILLOP

A History of

McKILLOP

recorded and edited by

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